

Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
What's your level of confidence in CHC's ability to meet your healthcare needs?

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PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of July 23, 2009

Phase 1: Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

Phase 2: An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

Phase 3: An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

Phase 4: Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

Phase 5: A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmiphoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

Health Care Reform

Six months in office, President Barack Obama sought Wednesday night to rally support for sweeping health care legislation he's struggling to push through Congress, expressing support for a surtax on families making more than \$1 million a year to help pay for it.

Nation...Page 23

Sablan files bill to clarify lawmakers' operational expenses. **PAGE 3**
Gen. Ruhlman to brief Legislature on military buildup. **PAGE 5**

CPA comptroller, deputy quit

Agency faces technical default on bond agreement anew

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Just as its bond ratio status is showing improvement, the Commonwealth Ports Authority suffered a fresh blow with the resignations of its comptroller and deputy comptroller. *See CPA on Page 4*

Manufacturers brewing new swine flu vaccine

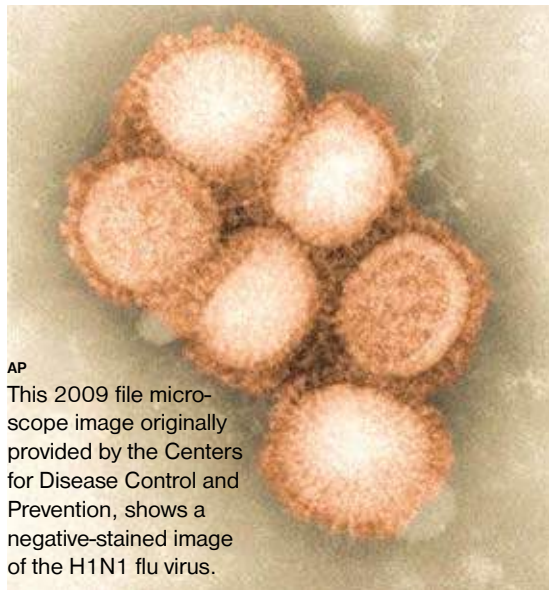
ON THE NET

■ Food and Drug Administration:
<http://www.fda.gov/>

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attention is shifting to the world's five leading flu vaccine makers: How fast are they really producing swine flu vaccine, and just how do they plan to test that it works?

A meeting Thursday of the Food and Drug Administration's scientific advisers offers the first in-depth *See MANUFACTURERS on Page 4*



AP
This 2009 file microscope image originally provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shows a negative-stained image of the H1N1 flu virus.

Ben & Eloy files election candidacy



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Commission on Election executive director Robert Guerrero, left, receives from Covenant Party officials, led by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, second right, the petition forms for their candidact during yesterday's filing at the election office. Also in photo is Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, right.

Covenant junks Demapan as may-oralty candidate

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Accompanied by nearly 200 supporters and family members, Covenant Party gubernatorial tandem of

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos yesterday trooped to the Commission Election to file their candidacies.

The Ben & Eloy team was the *See BEN & ELOY on Page 4*

FOUR MONTHS BEFORE FEDERALIZATION

Labor: Alien workers, IRs still unaccounted

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Labor deputy secretary Cinta Kaipat, in her latest interim progress report submitted to

the Fitial administration, admitted that Labor doesn't have factual data on the number of nonresident workers and immediate relatives in the CNMI.

See LABOR on Page 4



Kaipat



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Local

GUAM CAM-PAIGN SORTIE

Candidates for governor and lieutenant governor Juan "Pan" Tenorio Guerrero and Joseph Norita Camacho held a rally for Commonwealth natives living in Guam last Saturday, July 18, at Ypao Beach in Guam.

The event was attended by hundreds of supporters. Pictured at the rally are, from left, Joe Camacho, Tinian attorney J.P. San Nicolas, Guam Gov. Felix Camacho, and Juan "Pan" Guerrero. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Burglars victimize hotel guests—DPS

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Burglars victimized a Japanese couple and a Korean male who were guests of a hotel in Susupe, police authorities said yesterday.

Police placed a \$1,000 reward for anyone who can provide information about the case.

DPS public information officer Jason T. Tarkong said that at about 7:30am on July 21, police officers were dispatched at the hotel to investigate a report of burglary and theft incident.

Officer John Cabrera learned from hotel staff and the Japanese victims that some of their personal belongings were stolen from their room during the night of July 20.

Police did not identify the name of the Japanese couple.

They told police that they went to bed at around midnight with the front door locked, adding that the sliding glass door of the balcony was closed but unlocked.

When they woke up at about 6am, they discovered that the sliding glass door was halfway open and found out that two of their bags were missing.

The couple told the responding police officer that the bags contained their passports, two credit cards, a Sanyo video camera, 10,000 yen, \$120, and \$4,000 worth

of traveler's checks.

Tarkong said Officer Cabrera did not find any sign of forced entry when he checked the room.

Cabrera stated in his investigation report that he noticed that there was an access to the balcony from the adjacent rooms and the rooftop leading to the bottom floor.

Also on Tuesday, police officer Flor Estabillo responded to another burglary and theft incident at the same hotel at around 4pm.

A 45-year-old Korean (name withheld) told police that some of his personal items were stolen from his room on Monday, July 20.

The victim said he left the room at about 10am for a sightseeing.

He returned at about 4pm the following day and found out that he had been robbed.

Missing from his room were his Samsung cell phone (gold in color with crystal accessory), a Samsung digital camera and two gold rings.

Estabillo said there was no sign of forced entry.

Any information regarding these two incidents may be referred to the Crime Stoppers hotline 234-7272.

Crime Stoppers will pay cash reward of \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. Caller ID is not used and all calls will remain anonymous.

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Sablan files bill to clarify lawmakers' operational expenses

Bill will require lawmakers to use own vehicles, cellphones

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Rep. Christina M. Sablan has filed a bill that proposes to provide clearer guidelines for expenditures from lawmakers' operational expenses.

Sablan's House Bill 16-266 includes prohibition on government-paid cellphones and vehicles (except for documented and itemized expenses on official business for reimbursement).

The legislation also seeks a prohibition on housing allowances and subsistence for legislators.

The bill proposes the application of standard government compensation rates and reporting requirements to legislators for official travel within and outside of the CNMI.

The measure proposes the prohibition the solicitation of any member of the Legislature, or any member's respective office or staff, for an in-kind or financial contribution from the member's operational account to an individual, organization, event, or cause, and charitable.

Under the legislation, in addition to any sanctions and penalties set forth in legislative rules and set forth by law, any mem-

ber of the Legislature and any individual or organization that knowingly violates the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a civil infraction.

The violators will be fined "of not less than \$100 but not more than two times the amount of the expenditure solicited for the first offense; and \$500 or two times the amount of expenditure solicited, whichever is greater, for any subsequent violations."

Article II, Section 16(b) of the Constitution provides each member of the Legislature with an operational account to cover office and related expenses including travel.

Sablan stated in her bill that although the law prohibits the use of legislative funds for personal or political purposes, there is no clear definition set forth by law of what may or may not be considered an authorized operational expense.

"The purpose of this Act is to address this lack of clarity and provide clear guidelines for legislative operational expenditures," Sablan said.

She said the guidelines set forth in her legislation will provide that permissible legislative operational expenses shall

include office supplies, office equipment, office travel, office staff, and professional services.

"Conversely, these guidelines also hold that all other expenditures, for instance, in-kind or financial contributions to individuals, organizations, events, or causes, charitable or otherwise, using funds from legislators' operational accounts shall be considered personal or political. Accordingly, because they are impermissible legislative operational expenses, they shall be prohibited," the lawmaker said.

Sablan also underscored the need to clarify the current system of documentation, accounting, and compensation for legislative travel.

Historically, she said, the Legislature has authorized by rule the provision of subsistence

allowances, including housing, for members traveling away from their home islands within the Commonwealth.

Sablan cited a 2002 review conducted by the CNMI Public Auditor on legislative subsistence allowances in which it was concluded that such monthly allowances constituted an unjustified personal benefit in violation of public purpose.

The Public Auditor, she said, recommended that more stringent documentation requirements be established for legislative travel.

"Accordingly, this Act shall prohibit subsistence allowances,

including housing allowances, for legislators, and shall further require that government-rate compensation for travel, ground transportation, and accommodations shall apply to legislators, including government rates for travel, ground transportation, and accommodations within the Commonwealth for legislators traveling away from their home islands," she said.

Sablan said legislative operational funds should not be used to fund leases or purchases of vehicles for individual members.

The lawmaker said the practice whereby members can personally benefit at the end of a lease by having an option to buy

a leased vehicle at reduced price shall be prohibited.

The legislation will require that legislators use their own mode of transportation to get to and from work, as all government employees do, but will provide for the reimbursement of itemized fuel expenses based on miles traveled and documented on official business.

"In addition, government-paid mobile phone service for legislators and their staff shall no longer be authorized, except that members may submit to the Secretary of Finance mobile phone bills itemizing and justifying official phone call expenditures for reimbursement," Sablan said.

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Apartment D-4 at Millers Estates in Capitol Hill was robbed at about 6:00 A.M. on July 19, 2009. Items taken:

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CPA

From Page 1

The resignations of comptroller David Blake and deputy comptroller Frances Mafnas—both effective at the end of this month—were announced during yesterday's board meeting.

Blake is leaving the agency after accepting a better job offer in Korea, while Mafnas wants to finally retire.

"If we lose both of them...CPA will be in deep trouble because this will cause for a technical default for failing to satisfy the bond indenture require-

ment to have a comptroller on board," CPA executive director Efrain Camacho told the board.

It can be recalled that CPA had difficulty hiring qualified candidates for the position until it named Blake last February.

A certified public accountant, he was given a one year contract with annual compensation of \$65,000. The position has been vacant since the resignation of George Palican in 2007.

During the board's deliberation, Camacho asked the board to name Maf-

nas to the comptroller position until Dec. 31 to satisfy the bond agreement of having a comptroller onboard.

However, board vice chairman Thomas Villagomez expressed the need for CPA to adhere to the policy of posting the job announcement instead of approving a new contract for Mafnas, whom he said could still leave the post once she decides to pursue her retirement.

"It's a matter of policy..." Villagomez stated.



Camacho

But the board ruled that due to the urgency of the matter, Mafnas will be asked to stay until December and will assume the comptroller position.

During that four-month period, CPA will look for her replacement.

CPA was put under a state of emergency last year and its management was transferred to the executive branch due to bond indenture problems.

Yesterday, Camacho said one of the main reasons of the "high turnover" rate of key management people at the agency is the "unattractive salary" offered to them.

CPA provides only up to \$70,000

highest compensation to an employee exempted to the \$50,000 salary cap.

"The salary offers for key positions in the agency is unattractive...the reason why we can't get a qualified applicant," he said, adding that in his recent meeting with the Legislature he raised this concern of providing attractive compensation to airport's key personnel.

Camacho earlier proposed to the board independent contracts for three specific positions in the agency: executive director, comptroller, and legal counsel.

However, the board has yet to act on the recommendation.

LABOR

From Page 1

"As a result of the lack of attention from census, we do not know how many U.S. citizens are residing in the Commonwealth, how many U.S. citizens left the CNMI and took up residence in the States last year, we do not know how many people are in the immediate relative [class] of a U.S. citizen category, we do not know how many children of foreign workers we have in our public

schools..." Kaipat stated, adding that it is very difficult to govern well without the necessary data.

The deputy secretary explained that the function of counting the number of people in all categories, including foreign workers, is the responsibility of the U.S. Census Bureau which conducts person-by-person count every 10 years.

Census, she added, also conducts sampling counts for various specialized purposes each year and sometimes each month or calendar quarter.

However, Kaipat said in the Com-

monwealth and other territories, Census does not do this sampling work.

It was in 2005 when the last census was conducted in the CNMI which Kaipat said never provided the funding to do the complete statistical analysis of the sample.

"The Commonwealth is left with very old data until the next decennial census in 2010," she said.

Kaipat indicated that in counting the number of nonresident workers, Labor collects and publishes data on certain transactions. But these transaction numbers cannot be used as basis in

determining the number of permits or people on the islands.

"It was always transaction data and not people data," she said, reiterating that these cannot be used for population purposes because one foreign worker may have several permit transactions in a given year.

"The worker's entry permit may be renewed; the worker's contract may be amended; the worker maybe subcontracted; and so on...our system counts each of these transactions. It does not count people," she explained.

Kaipat reported that her department

effectively carries out its function of ensuring that all foreign workers who are in the CNMI are properly documented and employed.

The new system, she said, allows them to stay completely current with applications and to sift out fraudulent sponsorships or unqualified employers.

Labor reports every quarter on overstayers and publishes a list of those without status who remain in the islands.

She said many of those on the overstayers list elect to leave voluntarily.

BEN & ELOY

From Page 1

third—among four gubernatorial teams—that submitted petitions during the first two weeks of the filing schedule.

Fitial, who was seen mingling with supporters before 9am yesterday, was accompanied by first lady Josie Fitial and family members.

He disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the Covenant Party is committed to its mission to serve the Commonwealth.

"We will continue the visits...until we reach all the people in the islands," Fitial said on the team's plan after yesterday's filing.

Like the Republicans, Covenant Party has no official candidates for Rota. However, Fitial said they are slated to conduct their kickoff rally on the island tomorrow.

"We are also scheduled to go to Guam for the same purpose of meeting our voters there, so we will be there on Monday," Fitial said.

On Tuesday, Inos is scheduled to fly to the States to grace the annual lieutenant governor association meeting where he will extend his stay to 10 days to meet with the CNMI voters residing in the States.

Fitial said the party's August schedule will include visits to absentee vot-

ers in other areas in the mainland like San Diego.

Tinian, meanwhile, will host the Ben & Eloy team on Aug. 7, according to the governor.

Happy for support

Fitial yesterday expressed elation for the full support extended to his party during yesterday's filing.

"This is just the beginning...and we've receiving this tremendous support. With them, we're confident on our chances," he said.

Last June 12, a large crowd—estimated at over 3,000—turned up at the Covenant Party's mid-term rally in Susupe

Inos, for his part, described yesterday's filing turnout as a "great day for Covenant."

"This is a great day for Covenant Party. This is evidence of continuing support and an indication that we're still the team..." Inos told the media, alluding to the crowd that showed support yesterday.

Inos believes that among the team's advantages are "experience, capabilities, and sincerity" to bring progress to the people.

He said despite the many unpopular decisions, limited resources, and criticisms raised against the incumbent leadership, "People begin to realize...that despite these difficulties, we de-

liver...and we move forward."

Inos mentioned among other things the timely issuance of tax refunds and rebates to people, the administration's efforts of improving the utility corporation to better serve the public, objective implementation of policies, and others.

He said top priorities on the team's campaign platforms included the economy, education, health, power.

"Overall, it's the general welfare of the Commonwealth people because our vision is to help people, protect the government, and the rights of indigenous people," Inos added.

Demapan junked

Overall party chairman Greg M. Camacho yesterday disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the Covenant Party derailed its first mayoralty candidate for Saipan, Jose Demapan.

This after Demapan failed to comply with the party's requirements such as petition forms and fees.

Saipan Tribune learned that there are three candidates who initially sought the party's endorsement for mayor of Saipan: Demapan, Marian Tudela, and Candido Taman.

Camacho said it was the candidates' committee decision to call in the second qualified candidate to replace Demapan.

Yesterday, Tudela formally filed her

mayoralty candidacy for Saipan under the Covenant slate.

The chairman described the party's campaign events as "conservative" and "low-budget activities."

Camacho also admitted that Covenant Party has accommodated many "new faces" to the group—majority of them from opposing political parties.

"We welcome everyone and our doors are open. With the unity I've seen among the candidates...Covenant is pretty strong right now," he said, noting that though they don't have the slate on Rota they're banking on the people of the island themselves.

He confirmed that a number of key supporters of Republican Party primary candidate and former governor Juan N. Babauta have shifted support to the Covenant after the primary election last month.

"Yes, and it's a plus factor...for us...and for the CNMI people," he said.

Covenant Party campaign strategist, Rep. Oscar Babauta, expressed confidence on the ability of Ben & Eloy team to bring "victory" in the November polls.

"I am very optimistic with this team because many people just recently realized the efforts of this administration...in maintaining and sustaining the essential services for the people," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*, describ-

ing Fitial and Inos as "experienced" leaders.

The candidates

The Covenant Party has fielded 25 candidates for various government positions:

Incumbent candidates for Tinian include Jose P. San Nicolas for mayor; Edwin Aldan for the House; and incumbent Sens. Joseph M. Mendiola and Joaquin H. Borja for the Senate.

Mayoralty candidate for the Northern Islands is Ramona Rebuénog while Antonia Tudela will run on Saipan.

Senatorial candidates for Saipan included Ana S. Teregeyo and Jacinta M. Kaipat.

For Saipan House of Representatives, candidates for Precinct 1 are Froilan Tenorio, Vicente C. Cabrera, Benjamin M. Cepeda, and Canice K. Taitano.

Precinct II candidates, meanwhile, include incumbent Rep. Raymond D. Palacios and Ralph S. Demapan.

Candidates for House Precinct III seats are Jesus M. Elameto, Henry K. Rabauliman, Edmund S. Villagomez, David R. Maratita, and Felicidad T. Ogomoro.

From Precinct IV are Thomas J. Camacho and Sylvestre I. Iguel; while Ramon S. Basa and Daniel O. Quitagua will run in Precinct V.

MANUFACTURERS

From Page 1

public progress report since U.S. scientists delivered the novel virus to manufacturers and asked them to turn it into usable vaccine.

They've succeeded to a degree. The National Institutes of Health on Wednesday called for a few thousand volunteers, from babies to the elderly, for studies to see if pilot batches are safe and protective. The first shots should go into adult volunteers' arms in early August, with child studies to follow quickly if there are no signs of immediate side effects.

Those government-directed studies—and more that manufacturers will run—are key as the government decides whether to offer swine flu vaccine to millions of Americans starting in mid-October, besides vaccinating against the regular winter flu. Health authorities in other countries are looking to the U.S. studies, too, as they make their own plans.

Assuming the studies show the vaccine is OK, a big question is how much will be available and when. Last week, the World Health Organization warned that production is going slower than predicted, with the strains now in use yielding only about half as much of the main vaccine ingredient as is usual.

Wednesday, London-based GlaxoSmithKline echoed that caution, saying it is "working as quickly as possible" but being hindered by those low yields.

"Some of us are skeptical that very much will be available by mid-October," said Dr. William Schaffner, a vaccine specialist at Vanderbilt University.

And the government has warned that any vaccination campaign will put higher-risk people in line for the first batches, as supplies gradually increase over time.

Manufacturers' vaccine studies are expected to largely mirror the NIH's plans: Volunteers will get two vaccinations, 21 days apart. By early September, the NIH should have blood tests

showing how much immune protection the initial inoculation triggered, and if a low-dose or higher-dose version was needed. It will take another month to get information on the second inoculation.

Complicating the question: If plain vaccine doesn't spur enough protection or there isn't enough supply, manufacturers could add immune-system boosters called adjuvants. That will pose a dilemma as the U.S. has never approved a flu vaccine containing those ingredients, although they are widely used in vaccine given to older adults in Europe.

But there's little information on their safety in children and pregnant women.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the NIH's infectious disease chief, said it's highly unlikely that flu vaccine with an adjuvant would be part of a children's immunization campaign. Part of FDA's debate Thursday, however, is how to do additional testing of that combination in various age groups.

The NIH's first studies will use flu shots made by France-based Sanofi-Pasteur and CSL Ltd., which on Wednesday began a much smaller study of its vaccine in its home country of Australia.

Also yet to be studied are shots made by Glaxo and Swiss-based Novartis, and a nasal-spray flu vaccine from Maryland-based MedImmune.

Gen. Ruhlman to brief Legislature on military buildup

Brig. Gen. Philip M. Ruhlman, commander of the 36th Wing and installation commander and base commanding officer of Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, will brief the Legislature next week regarding the U.S. military buildup in the Marianas.

Ruhlman, who also serves as the deputy commander for the Joint Region Marianas, is expected discuss with the lawmakers the mission of the Air Force in the region.

Senate President Pete Reyes and House Speaker Arnold Palacios yesterday informed



Ruhlman

lawmakers about Ruhlman's courtesy visit to Commonwealth leaders.

Reyes and Palacios said the general will brief the lawmakers on the mission of the Air Force

in the CNMI and the military move into the region.

A joint meeting of the Legislature for Ruhlman's visit is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, at 9:30am in the House's chamber.

Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* that the briefing with the Legislature will be about Air Force activities and training in the Marianas. "They usually do this every year," Palacios said.

The speaker said they want to learn what type of activities they will be doing and raise questions if there is anything that the Commonwealth is not aware of. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Marpi area closed for detonation on Aug. 7

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

A detonation operation at the Laderan Lagoon Cliff Line will close the Marpi area this coming Aug. 7.

Department of Public Safety advised the public, including tour operators, farmers, joggers, and bikers, not to enter the area from 12pm to 3pm on that specific date.

This would be the fourth detonation operation at the area this year to be jointly conducted by the DPS, the Emergency Management Office, and the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment Marianas.

The last detonation activity held in the area was last June 25 with over 1,000 lbs. of unexploded ordnance.

Participants of the 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference were in attendance as part of their weeklong activities.

Prior to that, similar detonation activities were also con-

ducted in March and April with the growing pile of ordnance from World War II, mostly from the ongoing clearing operations on the Marpi homestead.

The detonation site is about a mile north of the Marpi landfill.

The grid coordinates are 15 degrees, 16.11 minutes, and 0.0865 seconds North and 145 degrees, 49 minutes, and 0.3313 seconds East, and 5,000 feet above sea level.

DPS said Suicide Cliff will be the only area that would not be closed because it would be the main viewing point for the detonation activity.

Public access to Suicide Cliff is allowed only through the road leading up to the Far East Broadcasting antenna for viewing purposes.

DPS said it would be setting up security posts to enforce and control traffic movement for safety purposes.

For more information, call DPS public information office at 664-9023.

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DHS wants airport site for headquarters

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection wants to use a significant portion of the airport to build its home station, as federal authorities take over local immigration in November.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Efrain Camacho said yesterday that the agency last June 22 received a request for space and improvements from CBP in anticipation of the federalization of immigration.

This request, CPA said, demanded access to the existing immigration area plus an additional 15,000 square feet and other areas for Saipan airport alone.

Camacho, during yesterday's special board meeting, estimated that for the Saipan airport alone DHS is eyeing 19,000 square feet of the area where a number of tenants are located.

The same requests for airport sites on Rota and Tinian were also made by the federal agency.

"Substantial improvements are required...the cost of which will be substantial. But this point in time they are not determinable," Camacho told the board, adding that CPA was informed that these costs are the responsibility of the CPA and

the carriers.

Camacho said current communication with customs and border protection indicates that they are proceeding with the planning and ultimate construction of the facilities.

Two representatives from CBP are scheduled to arrive and discuss the final details of the site request with CPA next month.

Camacho disclosed that early this year DHS sent staffers to inspect and take pictures of the three airports and seaports on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Mindful of the cost to be incurred in the improvement of the requested sites, CPA had communicated with NMI Delegate Gregorio Sablan to ask for assistance.

"CPA will explore both financial and political ways to provide funding for these improvements," Camacho reported to the board.

According to board chairman Jose Lifofoi, the cost of improving the sites will run in the millions of dollars and CPA has no capability to bear the cost.

Lifofoi said CPA cannot just give the sites to DHS to make the improvements because it lacks funding.

He said if DHS is willing to incur the cost of the needed works, CPA may consider the option.

"We can't easily give these sites because we have standing leases...and CPA is generating revenue from these leases," Lifofoi said.

CPA said a side effect of federalization is the existing federal laws and regulations which stipulate that CBP, in effect, controls the right to certify the international classification of an airport.

Camacho said if in the opinion of CBP an airport does not maintain adequate usage to justify CBP's presence, then the airport can be downgraded to domestic status.

"Given the current international activity at both Tinian and Rota...this raises a major concern," Camacho told the board.

The board has decided to wait for the August arrival of DHS representatives to present their final plan for the sites.

From there, the board may explore the option of seeking the Legislature's support in expressing CPA's concerns to the federal agency.

KKK eyes clean-up volunteers

The Kagman Komunitat Association is inviting the residents of Kagman to join the Office of Rep. Rosemond B. Santos and the Taga Riders Motorcycle Association to volunteer in the restoration of the Kagman II pavilions on Saturday, July 25, at 8am.

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Bill seeks to declare Marpi as protected area

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Christina M. Sablan has filed a bill that proposes to declare as protected area the controversial 624,000 square meters of public land in Marpi that has been designated for homestead development by the Department of Public Lands.

Co-sponsored by Reps. Edward T. Salas and Ramon A. Tebuteb, the legislation requires the Department of Lands and Natural Resources to develop and implement a management plan for this new protected area.

The bill seeks to incorporate the new Marpi Protected Area into the Mitigation Bank, to be restored and managed by DLNR.

The Mitigation Bank was intended to safeguard habitats of sensitive species to mitigate the negative impacts of commercial

development, and to facilitate rational and sustainable commercial development.

Salas told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday he is not against developing an area for homesteads, but not this Marpi area.

"If homesteads are built, that

homestead villages throughout the island," Salas said.

"Is that what we want our tourists to see in the future and specially when that area has long been a tourist attraction? Eyesores in the future? I hope not," Salas.

The Department of Public Lands designated five public land tracts comprising a total of 624,000 square meters in Marpi for homestead development.

In April 2009, these public lands were cleared of native and secondary forest for the purposes of unexploded ordnance removal in preparation for the Marpi Village Homestead Project.

The land clearing raised con-

cerns among some members of the community over the lack of public hearing prior to the actual land clearing, its negative impact on a tourist site, the lack of major siting permit, among other issues.

Sablan stated in the bill that the mitigation area for the Marpi Village Homestead Project land clearing was derived from the surrounding public lands—an area of 312,089 square meters consisting primarily of secondary forest.

Sablan said the public lands presently designated for homestead development and mitigation are immediately adjacent to the 490,000 square meters of Saipan Upland Mitigation Bank, which is part of the larger Commonwealth Mitigation Bank.

She said the public lands presently designated for homesteads in Marpi are unsuitable for homestead development because of the following reasons:

- Lack of infrastructure;
- Unusable groundwater resources;
- Thin soil that is incompatible with septic system installation;
- Proximity to highly significant cultural and historic sites, including Suicide Cliff, the National Historic Landmark of Marpi Point, and numerous war memorials;
- Proximity to economically valuable tourist attractions; and
- Proximity to protected areas, including endangered species habitat.

The bill proposes to declare as Marpi Protected area the 624,000 square meters designated for homesteads and the adjacent 312,089 square meters of secondary forest or for a total of 936,089 square meters.

Under the legislation, DLNR shall provide a public hearing of at least 30 days prior to the final adoption and implementation of the management plan.

A professional biologist, natural resource planner, or forester shall prepare the management plan, according to the bill.

Salas said the intent of the bill is to reserve certain public land that is adjacent to an already protected area and include in the larger Commonwealth Mitigation Bank.

Salas said DPL has designated these areas for homestead development and has begun to clear the earth for unexploded ordnance removal in preparation for the project.

"In my opinion, this area is not an ideal area for such purposes due to lack of infrastructure, unusable groundwater resources and thin soil," he said.

Furthermore, Salas said, the area being proposed is a landmark area and is designated as a tourist spot, specifically Suicide Cliff and close proximity to other tourist attractions—The Grotto and Bird Island.

"That area is so beautiful and peaceful, why destroy its beauty and serenity?" Salas said.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 24, 2000

Tinian to host another casino

A Japanese company is all set to establish a casino hotel on the island-municipality of Tinian after it paid the \$350,000 application and investigation fee to the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission a week ago. Tokyo-based Kirino Consultants Inc. is also planning to set up a domestic and international airline firm to be based on Tinian to specifically service the firm's casino customers as well as the local market. TCGCC Chair Martin DLG. San Nicolas said Koichi Kirino, representative of the Japanese consulting firm, arrived in Tinian last week to discuss the investment plans with the Tinian Legislative Delegation.

CPA opens dialog with Legislature, airlines

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has opened communication lines with the CNMI Legislature and airline companies servicing the Northern Marianas in fresh efforts to reduce existing rates at the Saipan International Airport, according to Executive Director Carlos H. Salas. Mr. Salas said CPA has the capability to reduce Saipan airport fees but only if the CNMI Legislature would earmark funds to finance and subsidize the operation of both West Tinian and Rota International Airports. "It is obvious that CPA can reduce airport rates so long as we receive government subsidy for the Tinian and Rota airports. We have opened dialog with the legislators about the idea," he told reporters in an interview.

July 24, 2001

'Saipan Sucks' author known

The Internet smear campaign that maligned Saipan has left its residents and web surfers puzzled on who could the author be. As this developed, government authorities are now probing the identity of the culprit, responsible for the smear campaign entitled "Saipan Sucks: The Truth About Saipan" which appears on the Internet. An official privy to the investigation said a suspect has been identified but his men are still working on the evidence that will support a case in court. Investigators are studying whether the smear campaign constitutes a criminal offense known as libel.

Tinian Shipping now charging \$15 for one-way ferry service

The Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino needs to raise an estimated annual revenue of \$6 million to continue the operation of ferry services between Saipan and Tinian. For the last two years, the 330-seat Tinian Express incurred more than \$6 million in total losses, Tinian Dynasty Hotel Operations Manager Tom Liu said. This forced Tinian Dynasty to start collecting a fare of \$15 for a one-way ticket from those taking the ferry beginning July 16, according to Liu. Tinian Dynasty has been operating the ferry services between Saipan and Tinian on a non-revenue generating basis.

July 24, 2002

Heinz vows to resign if user's fee hike referred to Stanley

As promised, House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider introduced during yesterday's session a bill that seeks to increase the user's fee to 5 percent, with the promise to resign from his post if he goes down in defeat on the proposal. At a motion from House Floor Leader Jesus T. Attao that was seconded by other lawmakers, the measure was immediately referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, with Hofschneider instructing committee chairman, Rep. Stanley S. Torres, to conduct a public hearing and then come out with recommendations by Friday next week. Torres said he cannot specify a date yet on the public hearing as he is still awaiting a vital document regarding the garment industry. "I will know by Monday or Tuesday next week and then I will announce it."

New gear boosts local firefighting

The Department of Public Safety-Fire Division's share in a \$90-million federal grant approved by President Bush last year has allowed the local agency to acquire 87 sets of new turn-out gear to better protect its firefighters. The competitive grant offered under the Federal Emergency Management Agency permitted the CNMI to purchase some \$145,000-worth of firefighting equipment made from the latest material, which local firefighters have described as "more comfortable." "It's hot but not like the old ones," said Firefighter John Delong, who tried on the brand new suit for the first time yesterday. DPS Commissioner Edward C. Camacho explained that the new turn-out gear has both chemical- and thermal-type protection and is lighter compared to the old ones used by the Fire division.

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EDITORIAL

The perpetual suspect

In an incident that raised eyebrows from coast to coast, Harvard University professor Henry Louis Gates Jr., a prominent scholar and author, was arrested by the Cambridge Police Department after officers responded to reports that black men were breaking into his house. Gates had just arrived home from China and was trying to force open his jammed front door with the help of his hired driver when a neighbor called the police.

Exactly what happened after that isn't clear. News reports quoting the police say that Gates, the head of Harvard's W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research, was uncooperative and "disorderly" while an officer was investigating a possible burglary. That's nonsense, Gates maintains. The real problem is that his color trumped everything else, including his prominence, his familiarity with the house and his identification showing that he lived there. It demoted him from citizen to suspect.

Even after seeing his Harvard ID and Massachusetts driver's license, Gates told The Washington Post, the officer's questions continued. Gates asked questions too, insisting that the officer divulge his name and badge number. That request, he maintains, led to a back and forth between them, ending in his arrest. Ultimately, the professor was released on \$40 bail. The police call the incident "regrettable," and prosecutors have dropped disorderly conduct charges against the scholar. But it's not over. The incident illustrates how fraught relations remain between black men and police officers.

The police say Gates asked if the officer knew "who he was." That may sound arrogant, but many a black man in the same position has asked a similar question. It means: "Can you see who I am, not just what I am?" Because regardless of their achievements, wealth or status, they are vulnerable to the universal black male experience—finding themselves in handcuffs first and charges dropped later. Was Gates fed up and frustrated? Loud and assertive? Even disorderly, as police maintain? Possibly so. It's tough being a perpetual suspect.

In Los Angeles, the Police Department has struggled to overcome allegations of racial profiling. Even attorney Johnnie L. Cochran was pulled from his Rolls-Royce and spread-eagled on the hood—while he was in charge of investigating police abuse cases for the district attorney's office. Today, the department generally gets good marks from the African American community. Still, a recent report by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government noted that "a troubling pattern" remains. Officers subject African Americans, and to a lesser extent Hispanics, to "use of force" out of proportion to the number of interactions with police.

In his 1994 book, "Colored People: A Memoir," Gates wrote that although being black is no disgrace, it can be inconvenient: "When I walk into a room, people still see my blackness, more than my Gates-ness, or my literary-ness." Even when the room is in his own home.

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times



Partitions: Not just for geeks

You can't fix the Commonwealth's economy this summer, but you can make yourself more technologically empowered and, therefore, more competitive. For my pals and I this has been sort of a "tech summer," since everyone I know is buying netbook computers and everyone is comparing notes on how to best set them up.

So here's a topic that is overdue for a public airing: Hard drive partitions. Forget the "how," the Internet has an abundance of how-to tips. But I think a "why" is important. I'm hoping that by sharing my outlook on this, I can save you the trouble of re-inventing the conceptual wheel.

I had to learn it the hard way. I think my role in life is to serve as a warning to others.

One fine Saipan morning over breakfast at Shirley's, my computer threw a hissy fit on boot up. Although I had my data backed up, my archive was in Guam, and I had work to complete in Saipan. After breakfast, we got the computer running by invoking a restoration (sort of a disaster recovery thing) function in the computer. This restored it to its factory settings.

Good news: The computer worked again.

Bad news: All my data was gone, since the restoration overwrites the entire "C" drive.

Solution: When setting up a computer, create "partitions" by splitting the "C" drive into two (or more, if you want) sections, we'll call them "C" and "D." The "C" partition is dedicated to the operating system and installed programs. The "D" partition is where you put your data (spreadsheets, documents, etc.).

Using this arrangement, if it's necessary to invoke the computer's disaster recovery (or whatever they call it) mode, it will restore "C" to its pristine, factory settings, while the cloistered "D," with all your precious data, remains safely aloof from the turmoil. Then, the operating system having been restored, if you had the foresight to keep some of your favorite downloaded freeware programs stashed on your "D" partition, you can easily reinstall them, since they don't require a CD for installation.

To use my newest computer (a netbook) as an example, a 20-gigabyte "C" partition is amply big for Windows XP and all my installed programs. The rest of the available space on the 160-gigabyte drive

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.



can be used for data on the "D" partition. (Computers commonly also have a small hidden partition for their disaster recovery restoration; don't mess with this.)

I think partitioning isn't more common because the basic "whys" aren't commonly discussed. Furthermore, a lot of people don't like to invest much effort in setting up their computers; in fact, many people don't even know, much less care, where their important files are stored on their hard drives; they're beyond help.

Still, for those willing to give some thought to it, a good partitioning strategy can save hours and hours of grief down the road.

Folks who aren't comfortable messing with computers might want to have a friendly techie do the partitioning chore; it's not usually complicated, but it can be disastrous if you mess it up.

On the other hand, when I recently set up a Samsung N110 netbook (a sweet machine indeed), I was pleased to note that it creates partitions right out of the box (yeah!), but displeased to note that the default settings were poorly documented (boo!).

I've just hit the most basic of basics here. Those so inclined can take things a lot further, using programs such as Acronis True Image or Norton Ghost to make computer recovery even more effective, but that's a deeper topic.

There is a lot to be said for being able to pack an office's worth of information in your briefcase as you go to Guam, Asia, or wherever else duty calls. So this is a great summer to invest in tech. When this investment involves some planning, in addition to money, it will serve you even better.

Partitioning isn't just for geeks anymore, it's a powerful tool the rest of us can use as well.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

It must be Halloween in July

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO, JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Covenant Agreement is our holy grail of protection signed into law by President Ford in 1975. Inherent in that agreement is the rights of governance for greater degree of self-government and higher standard of living. How unfortunate that we rely detrimentally on the U.S. to keeping its share of responsibility under the agreement. We now understand that such is completely the contrary.

Too, it seems that the Covenant Agreement has turned into a document of good intentions turned into bad ones. And though it says its dissolution is mutual, how can we secure honest derivatives from a relationship ruined by Washington? Is acquiescence its vision of our perceived helplessness? It seems it has every intention to promote neo-colonialism by slowly dismantling the basic tenet of the agreement.

Protection is a warm and friendly word that everyone needs against the unpredictable storms of life and it is nice to give protection mutually and be protected. Such isn't the case on the political and economic spheres here in the islands. Despite our volatile situation Washington has dished out pure arrogance of the highest order. You lift the word protection to the national level and our hopes and aspirations are dashed or disappear instantly from the irrelevant agenda of the powerful though insensitive departments and instrumentalities of the federal government.

Is the violation of our rights to self-government the treasured exchange in the irreplaceable value of our surrendering indigenous sovereignty in 1975? It seems our simple our aspirations inherent in the agreement became a sinister and ominous concept, a harbinger of narrow selfishness, conflict and impoverishment. It presents a blurred vision of what's ahead for the indigenous people, all tangled in such heavily polished public relations stunts emanating from the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security. And our people,

like other fellow Americans, only want their simple question answered: Where are you taking us from here Uncle Sam?

Didn't China recently purchase over \$700 billion worth of bad assets from the U.S.? Is this the reason the U.S. faded against persistent demonization of China on human rights because of a favor

Didn't China recently purchase over \$700 billion worth of bad assets from the U.S.? Is this the reason the U.S. faded against persistent demonization of China on human rights because of a favor that allowed the funding of Obamanomics? Shouldn't this gesture eventually translate into greater U.S.-Sino relations?

that allowed the funding of Obamanomics? Shouldn't this gesture eventually translate into greater U.S.-Sino relations? Didn't Putin and Obama recently meet to pare down nuclear arsenals? Shouldn't this also pave the way for synergistic and harmonious geo-political relationship? Or are we supposed to be basking in the sea of sanc-

timonious diplomacy? Now, the military build-up on Guam isn't about preparing for another conventional warfare with countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It is about vacating Japanese land it needs to ease crowded conditions at home. Guam is the closest U.S. soil. Thus, it makes sense to relocate 8,000 Marines, support system and some 12,000 military families. It's a good move but is it equally beneficial for the people of Guam?

The combined public relations stunts by defense and homeland security is the equivalence of waving a paper tiger, yelling, "run, this lifeless paper tiger kills!" Rogue countries know better than toy with the firepower of the U.S. in the region. With technological advances in nuclear weaponry, major powers have begun employing diplomacy to decrease lethal weapons in their arsenal. It's fatally dangerous for humanity all around.

Now, the departments of Defense and Homeland Security can't hide the truth from the apparent. It isn't about terrorism per se as much as oil deposits (larger than the combined resources of the Middle East) that the federal government must secure to shore up future domestic needs at home. It's in plain explanation in the book, *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith. who said that the most powerful country in the world is the one that controls global resources, no more, no less.

Finally, is the Marine Monument up north an accidental phenomenon? What about the scientific research vessels plying the waters of paradise? Isn't it true that they have found something worth the gold and oil deposits in Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Thailand, and other tiger countries in the region? Perhaps, herein lies the crux of the purposeful violation of indigenous rights to greater self-government...and a higher standard of living. The feds would do anything to secure indigenous natural resources.

Gee, it must be Halloween in July right here in paradise!

(Editor's note: This is Mr. DelRosario's reaction to Lee Andersen's "Take on Federalization" letter)

Letters to the Editor

Perceptions

There has been a great deal of confusion on Saipan as to whether or not pets are worth the cost of veterinary care.

This confusion runs deeply through every ethnic group on the island, and is seen in the rich as well as the poor.

The main culprit is the, "But it shouldn't cost so much," attitude. This is a purely emotional argument with no basis in fact, since everything from cars, to gasoline, to the minimum wage have gone up at a higher rate than veterinary fees.

Think about it, we've accepted a higher price for cars and gasoline without a whimper, but think that veterinary care should be free; in 2009, when nothing is free!

Let's take a look at how much overall prices have increased compared to veterinary fees over the same period, and then let's make an effort to put these issues in perspective.

When I started driving in 1966, you could buy a new Volkswagen Beetle for \$1,000, and gasoline was \$0.27/gallon. We used to add \$2 of gas to the tank for a weekend of cruising.

Today the average car sells for around \$25,000 and gasoline has been as high as \$5.00/gal. \$2 of gas won't get you down the street!

This represents a 2,400 percent increase in the cost of cars, while gasoline has racked up a nearly 1,800-percent increase over the last 43 years.

My first house cost \$35,000 in 1978, my current residence represents a nearly 1,200 percent increase in the cost of housing over that period of time.

There is no difference between my first house and my present house in their abilities to keep the rain off of me, or to keep me comfortable at night. The gasoline back in 1966 powered my car just fine. Veterinary care on the other hand is light years ahead of where it was in 1966.

A Harley Davidson Motorcycle in 1974 was around \$1,500; today they are as high as \$25,000. That's a 1,567-percent increase, or 45 percent a year.

My first apartment in 1970 cost \$50/month. An apartment today can run \$1,000/month or more, reflecting a 1,900 percent increase.

My first computer cost \$300 new, compared with \$1,800 today; an increase of 500 percent.

On Saipan the cost of electricity, went up 1,100 at my home, and 750 percent at the Animal Hospital, over a period of a few months, and is still the major financial impediment for families, and business's on this island. This once-a-month expense has had

more impact on the residents of Saipan, than the recent world wide economic collapse.

In 1966 the minimum wage was \$0.75/hour. Compare this with \$7.50/hr today for an increase of 900 percent or 21 percent /year over the last 43 years.

The perception today is that \$7.50 is not even a "living wage", while I got along quite well on \$90/month during my tour in the Marine Corps. There's a moral to this.

Cigarettes were \$0.33/pack or \$1.80/carton. I was shocked today to find that a pack of cigarettes is \$4.50 a pack; that's a 1,263-percent increase.

Now let's look at the difference in veterinary care over that same period of time.

In 1978 the average life span for a dog or cat was eight years. Within 3-5 years of my starting practice the lifespan had increased to 15 years for dogs, and a little higher for cats.

This was largely due to an increased awareness on the part of pet owners. As the concern for pets grew so too did the lifespan.

Paradoxically, as owner initiated visits to the veterinarian increased, the cost of raising a pet decreased. The simple fact is that preventing diseases is cheaper than treating them. Treatment tends to cost 10 times more than prevention. Treatment of diseases is always unpredictable and uncertain, while prevention is very predictable and very certain.

On Saipan, preventative care still hasn't caught on, even among the "rich". As a result, the average pets' life span still hovers around 6-8 years, and yes, it would be much cheaper if prevention was the standard rather than the exception.

In 1978 spays were around \$35 for small dogs and cats.

Today, a small dog spay will run \$135 for anesthesia and surgery.

This represents an increase of 286-percent or roughly 9-percent/year over this period of 31 years.

A veterinary exam was \$15 in the Southeastern U.S., and yes, some people thought that was "high."

That same exam on Saipan today will cost \$37.50. That's an increase of 150-percent over 30 years or 5percent /year. Remember the minimal wage increase of 21 percent/year?

A K9 distemper vaccination was \$15 vs. \$31.50 today for an increase of 110-percent over the last 31 years, and that says nothing about the improved coverage of the newer vaccines.

After Parvo Virus showed up in 1979/80, the new Distemper/Parvo vaccination went to \$25 in 1981. That vaccine has increased

to only \$31.50 today.

This represents an increase of \$6.50 over 29 years, for a 26-percent increase. That's \$0.22/year or less than 1 percent /year.

A fecal test in 1978 was and still hovers at \$20. A "simple" heartworm test was \$18, and is \$25 today. The complex heartworm test was \$25 when first introduced in the '80s, it is now \$35. Let me remind you that these price increases occurred over 30 years.

An X-ray was \$75, it recently went up to \$82.

Overnight board was \$6 and stayed there until a couple of years ago when it went up to \$10.

Something as mundane as a nail trim has gone from \$5 to \$10 over the last 30 years.

If veterinary medicine had kept pace with gasoline, cars, houses, and most durable goods, a K9 Distemper/Parvo Combination vaccination would now cost \$225.00, and a nail trim for your dog, \$80.

For a quick comparison between the mainland and Saipan, a routine exam on the mainland is now \$44, which is 17 percent higher than on Saipan. A day of hospitalization averages \$45 on the mainland, \$18 on Saipan. This is a 150-percent difference.

Day board, where the pet is simply boarded for the day while the owner is at work averages \$37. On Saipan Day board is \$8.

On Saipan, gas anesthesia has not increased over 1978 prices, in spite of the added usage of EKG, respiratory, and pulse/oximeter monitoring during surgery.

It's pretty amazing that in spite of other items and services showing 1,500-2,500 percent increases over the last few years, veterinary fees have increased little, and don't even show up on the leading economic Index when inflation is evaluated.

The "take home message" is that veterinary fees have increased over time far less rapidly than the cost of electricity, gasoline, cars, computers, or the minimum wage, and those same fees on Saipan are sometimes considerably less than on the mainland.

I hope this helps the people of Saipan to keep these issues in perspective and to look at their pets with a little bit more compassion when they are ill. Remember that no one has ever gone broke from a veterinary bill.






You see, most veterinarians know that willingness to provide quality veterinary care for a pet, has nothing to do with money; it has to do with compassion.

Ed Tudor, DVM
Sadog Tasi

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers in the morning. Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms in the afternoon. Light southeast winds.	Mostly clear with isolated showers. Light northeast winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲86 ▼77
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼78
Yap	Showers	▲86 ▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲87 ▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲89 ▼77
Majuro	Rain	▲84 ▼79

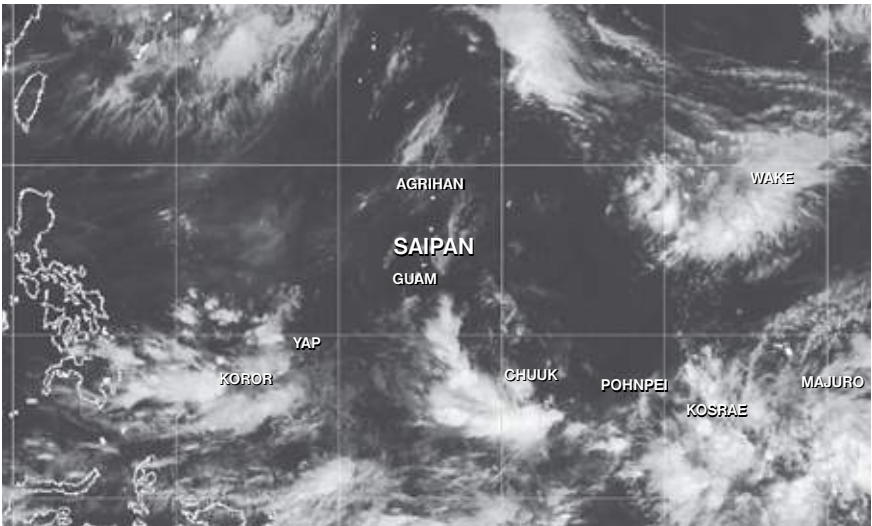
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲55 ▼39
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼72
Hong Kong	Showers	▲91 ▼82
Honolulu	Cloudy	▲84 ▼76
London	Rain	▲70 ▼54
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲86 ▼66
Manila	Rain	▲84 ▼77
Melbourne	Sunny	▲56 ▼41
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼80
New York	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼68
Osaka	Rain	▲84 ▼71
Paris	Showers	▲73 ▼52
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼69
Rome	Sunny	▲95 ▼69
Salem	Partly Sunny	▲86 ▼54
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲69 ▼55
Seoul	Showers	▲81 ▼63
Tokyo	Showers	▲81 ▼73
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼69

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
3:15 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
8:18 AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
3:31 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
10:15 PM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak circulation is west of Saipan near 15N138E with a monsoon trough eastward from 15N138E to 15N150E then southeastward to end near 3N167E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near Palau and Yap between 4N and 12N from 130E to 138E and near the equator south of a line from 2N138E to 2N143E and southwest of Chuuk in an area from 11N146E to 4N156E to 4N145E back to 11N146E. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of a line from 24N150E to 23N154E. A surface trough near Wake Island extends southwestward from 19N166E to 13N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in an area from 23N162E to 20N170E to 14N163E to 18N158E back to 23N162E. Winds converging from both west and east are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Kosrae and the southern Marshall Islands in an area south of 8N from 160E to 174E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers near the date line east of a line from 11N178E to 3N176E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Monday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Tuesday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:51 AM	8:36 PM
Saturday	8:50 AM	9:18 PM
Sunday	9:46 AM	9:59 PM
Monday	10:41 AM	10:40 PM
Tuesday	11:35 AM	11:21 PM

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 21, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	GUAM-ROTA (ROP) C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am 1, 3, 4, 6	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am 1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA-SAIPAN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ704/605 11:50pm 2:30pm+1 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Letters to the Editor

Fund members' wish list

Granted the list below is uneven, with some suggestions far more valid than others, but it is an example of what can be found if people brainstorm—as has been done on an informal basis, to arrive at this list of other sources of potential revenue for paying off the government debt to the Retirement Fund.

It is not my list—and I have not edited it. It has been circulating in various e-mail circles for several weeks and I have copied it here in hopes that putting it in the paper will inspire someone to do more than just talk about the situation.

The Fund has two streams of loss, as I see it—the ongoing current loss as it uses more and more of its assets in order to keep up the payment to retirees, and the accumulated debt that stems from past non-payments to the Fund.

If implemented sooner rather than later, some of the items on the list could at least “cure” the current on-going loss, while the negotiating teams work out how to meet the accumulated debt.

But with no action taken on any front, as both the administration and the legislature drag their heels and engage in endless debate, the Retirement Fund only falls into more and more debt, making the situation ever worse.

I would challenge the administration and the legislature to come up, by month's end, not with a plan but with actual legislation that will at the very least cover the Retirement Fund's monthly payments to retirees and the associated monthly costs and expenses and at least stop the continuing on-going drain on the Retirement Fund's assets.

Doing so might even help get some people re-elected...

To stem the bleeding of Retirement Fund debts, do one or more of the following:

1. Reduce the size of the Legislature;
2. Stop the \$300,000 allocation to the Governor's Office;
3. Stop the \$150,000 allowances to certain legislators;
4. Stop wastes in government;
5. Privatize the hospital;
6. Privatize CUC;
7. Stop the \$20-million allocation to the Saipan Delegation and

To interested retirees and other DBP Fund members

As reported in the July 23 edition of this paper regarding the Fund having “only up to 7 years lifeline” it was also noted that Fund officials had yet to “receive a positive response from both the Fitial administration and the Legislature” to meet and start negotiations to comply with the court's order to arrange for payment of the government's \$123.6 million debt to the Fund.

Apparently the central government and Legislature have not yet responded to the Fund's formal written request for a meeting to work out a payment plan recently mandated (commanded) by a Superior Court Order.

Some retirees may recall that Civil Action #60-0367 required the government to meet with the Trustees to work out a mutually acceptable settlement for a repayment schedule to honor the Court's judgment in the amount of \$231.6 million which the government owes the Retirement Fund.

Apparently and unfortunately, the government has so far taken no visible action to comply with participating in even scheduling a meeting with the Fund Trustees to work out a payment solution—at least to my knowledge.

If this in fact is the case—shame, shame—on both the Executive and Legislative Branches.

Make no mistake about it—adherence to the rule of law and respect for contract carries serious implications far beyond the current issue with the Retirement Fund—it also has serious indications for future investment as well.

Quite simply, if a government doesn't treat it's citizens fairly—reneges on its obligations—what message does that send to potential investors? I'll tell you what the message is—there's no guarantee the government won't treat foreign investors the same way it treats its citizens.

That sort of action is to be expected in a Banana Republic—but not in a U.S. Commonwealth.

For those retired senior citizens who worked for the Trust Territory government—or for the Japanese administration before that—their knowledge of the U.S. form of democracy may be somewhat limited considering that prior to the late '60's civics and government may not have always been within the standard curriculum of the public school system and certainly not during the Japanese period.

In those T.T. days as an active member of the Congress of Micronesia's Education for Self Government program (ESG)—a '70's program designed to prepare local residents for a change in political status and responsibilities of self government—I recall that we had to encourage the teaching of civics in the public school system as only one of many activities in preparation of a plebiscite that would

8. earmark this to the Fund;
8. Redirect the Tobacco Fund of \$5 million that goes to PSS to the Fund (see discussion above from Joe Kaipat);
9. Government to stop renting and leasing from private sector; move into government-owned buildings; and redirect rents to the Fund;
10. Stop housing allowances for outside hires;
11. Redirect all land leases from hotels and golf courses to the Fund;
12. Rent/ lease or liquidate idle government assets such as the old MIHA housing units in Garapan, the former Washington Resident Rep.'s building in D.C.; Capitol Hill houses; etc...;
13. Earmark all Cover Over Taxes due the CNMI to the Fund;
14. Unfilled vacant government position or FTE funded shall have its funds allotted be directed to the Fund;
15. Unexpended agencies, allotments directed to the Fund at year end;
16. Decrease or eliminate tax rebates for the time being;
17. Interests earnings on MPLT that are going into the general fund should be directed to the Fund;
18. Surpluses from autonomous agencies be directed to the Fund;
19. The 1 percent budget assessments on agencies going to OPA be directed to the Fund should there be excesses of OPA budget need;
20. Privatize CPA;
21. Assign all agencies, assets to the Fund: CUC receivables; CDA receivables; CPA receivables; CHC receivables; Court receivables; DPL receivables; etc.;
22. Assign all agencies, investment assets to the Fund;
23. Stop the Qualifying Certificate Tax breaks;
24. Cut the various Dept. of _____ Affairs (fill in the blanks);
25. Mayor's Office (fill in the Blank);
26. CDA Preferred Stock in CUC—this is \$45.5 million of which will yield 2 percent in perpetuity or over \$900K annually starting in 2011;
27. Sell the two vehicles in Washington, D.C.;
28. All new businesses applying for Qualifying Certificates will from here on direct all taxes otherwise due to the government to the Fund...;
29. Identify all areas that have not been taxed that could be taxed;

30. Since the garment industry is dead and cannot now impose the \$1.00 per garment the judge wants why not look at what exports this could be directed at and do same...;
31. Sell the Fund's Home Loan Program- I believe there is an RFP out soliciting for potential buyers. This is work on the side of the Fund and nothing to do with government;
32. Dig and monitor credit union—this too can be sold off to either MPLT or to CDA. If not sold then have it serviced by others so that the Fund's resources are not exhausted monitoring the credit union;
33. The Judicial Complex Loan with the Fund can also be sold to another party preferably not to a government entity but to private sector lending institutions;
34. Open a bank.....possible but in my (Oscar's) opinion it should remain a private bank. Another similar idea is to simply buy out existing non FDIC banks since there are two already established, merge the two and require that the new bank be FDIC- absent FDIC insurance and we can forget it;
35. Establishing a new regional airline—there is potential here and this merits mentioning;
36. UMDA Everybody knows the United Micronesia Development Association, Inc...the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is the rightful owner of 50,000 shares that may be valued at \$30.00 per share or more depending on the financial condition of the company. This translates to \$1.5 million and this is in addition to the 1,000 shares in the Pacific Islands Development Bank not mentioned in the list;
37. Assign all mining rights on the pozzalan on Pagan; what about all rights to leases if and when the islands up north are to be used by the military?
38. Reduce the life and health insurance premiums the government has to pay insurance carriers (Aetna and Moylans' Netlife) by tweaking the benefits and what needs coverage and the amounts or the limits on coverage;
39. Get rid of unnecessary cellular phones;
40. Stop driving government cars home;
41. Convert the Fire Department to a voluntary system;
42. Indigenous Affairs, Women's Affairs, and Carolinian Affairs should be under one roof;
43. Stop lease of cheap government land to the privy only to be subleased to a government agency for 10 times the amount; and
44. Order all agencies to relocate to abandoned government owned buildings in Lower Base.

Ruth Tighe
Tanapag

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Letters to the Editor

Why should I vote? Who should I vote for?

First off I want to make it clear that the ideas I am putting forward are mine and mine alone. My hope is that you will take time to read it and think about what I have to say.

The right to vote for your leaders is one of the greatest rights anyone can have. But with that right, comes responsibility. You are responsible to look at all the candidates. Find out what they really stand for. Which candidate will work for the good of the island and for all of us; and which ones are going to work for themselves?

Ever since we have elections on the island it has been an accepted cultural practice to vote for family members. I would hope that by now you can see that, such cultural practice no longer works. Just step back and look at where it has gotten you. A non-functioning government; a "do-nothing" Legislature; and a Retirement Fund that is going broke. If this is what you want for your children then keep up the practice. If you want something better for your children then look at who is running for office. Pick the ones who want to help the island and the people and vote for them regardless if they are family or not. Keep in mind that you can lie to the candidates just as well as they lie to you. But when you vote you are the only one who knows who you voted for. Do not believe what the candidates tell you. Look at how they voted in the past. Did they vote to help you or themselves? When the candidates approach me I have just one question for them, that is name me one bill that you sponsored or supported in the last ten years that was designed to help the working people of the CNMI. Guess what; I have yet to get an answer. I guess it has been long ago that they have forgotten; or maybe they just never did try to help the people.

A good place to start on their records is to find out how they voted on the bills to give garment factories every tax break in the world. Anyone that has the smallest degree of understanding about business know that when President Clinton signed the North American Free Trade Bill, the garment factories were history. So instead of getting all the revenue we could out of them, our local lawmakers gave them every tax break they could. It did not keep the factories here. What it did is let the factory owners leave here with million dollars in their pockets; money that should have been in the general fund. When the factories did close down did you hear any of the lawmakers talking about finding other sources of revenue? You did not hear a word out of them till a few weeks ago. Where have they been the last 10 years? My point in all of this is that we need a new group of lawmakers. Younger people that is willing to go vote. Ask yourself, "Is that candidate going to try to make things better or is he or she just saying what they think that you want to hear to get your vote?". How have they responded in the past?

Frederick Prosser
As-Matusi

TO INTERESTED

From Page 13

eventually be scheduled. Many people who are now retired participated in the program—I wasn't the only one.

For those who haven't given it much thought since then and even now—they might ask—why do we have the three equal and separate independent branches of government—the Executive, Legislative and Judicial?

One reason was to avoid placing too much authority and control in any one branch where such unchecked power could be abused to the detriment and freedom of the citizens. It was a method to provide a balance for checking the unfair application of arbitrary and unjust decisions and actions such as we now witness—in the case of the Superior Court's command that the Executive Branch pay the debt to the Fund for which it is responsible and further—to meet with Fund officials to work out a fair and agreeable timetable for such payment.

Returning to the current situation regarding the Executive Branch and a court order from the Judicial Branch—in my opinion—it's one thing to ignore the long-term financial welfare and security of the more than 6,300 DBP Fund members, the disabled, dependents, widows and widowers—however, it's quite

another to defy a Court Order at least if one respects the rule of law—which is the very bedrock of civilized society.

I sincerely hope after all these years this not an example of inexperience in the full application and appreciation of democratic "self government" under three equal branches? My, my—oh my! What if it does fall short!

If so, then dear Fund members it resembles more the action of a nascent borderline autocracy.

If, however, on the other hand it is not an oversight on the part of the Executive Branch—could it then be simply neglect by several irresponsible employees tasked to meet with the Fund Trustees—government employees who have so far failed to do their job?

If they are young and thus were not present in the early days when political options were being explored for the NMI and thus not at the beginning of the discussions leading to the NMI's current form of government and are unaware of the difference and role of the three branches—perhaps they can be forgiven for their educational deficiency—but definitely not if they "skipped" school the day the subject of the three branches was taught in which case it's very bad form—and someone should tell their mothers.

Dear reader what do you think?

William H. "Bill" Stewart
Via email

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Saipan Tribune

Newborn Hearing Screening

Did you know that...
Every baby born in the CNMI receives a hearing screening before leaving the hospital?

Ask if your baby passed the test. Babies learn to talk from what they hear...if your baby needs follow up, schedule your appointment right away.

Follow-up testing is FREE!
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Printing funded by the Cooperative Agreement for Early Hearing detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance, and Integration.

Congratulations!

95th Grand Anniversary Celebration

IGLESIA NI CRISTO DAY

JULY 27, 2009

Greetings From:



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Happy 95th Anniversary

IGLESIA NI CRISTO

(Church of Christ)



Greetings from:



RNV Construction, Villaroyal Pawnshop, & PNB Forex

Iglesia ni Cristo 95th Grand Anniversary



Iglesia ni Cristo turns 95 this Monday

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) in the

Iglesia Ni Cristo's Church of Christ Chapel in San Vicente.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI will be gathering for a special service on Monday as they celebrate their 95th grand anniversary.

The special service will start at 7pm at the Church of Christ Chapel in San Vicente, Saipan where they will hold a memorial program and dinner reception.

In the Philippines, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo declared a special holiday on Monday.

It was on July 27, 1914 that INC was officially registered as a pioneering religious organization.

During this time, anti-colonialism movements in the

Philippines, often with religious undertones, were the order of the day.

American missionary works were exposing the Filipino culture to many alternatives to Catholicism.

INC's success is attributed primarily to its leadership—aggressive, materially successful, and indigenous movement.

Its founder Felix Y. Manalo, the man whom the members recognize as the "Messenger of God," set out to perform his divine mission.

Manalo started shepherding several congregations, which turned to thousands.

Manalo died in April 1963, but this did not cause any disruption in the church activities. His son Erano took over the duties as executive minister and later on, grandson Eduardo V. Manalo became the deputy executive minister.

Over the next 30 years, INC became the fastest growing church in the Philippines.

It now has millions of members, including overseas.

The first overseas mission was on July 27, 1968 in Hawaii. Almost a year later on May

See ANNIVERSARY on Next Page

Congratulations!
95th Grand Anniversary

Church of Christ
(Iglesia ni Cristo)

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Congratulations!

95th Grand Anniversary

"You whom I taken from the ends of the earth, And called from its farthest regions, And said to you, You are My servant, I have chosen you and have not cast you away: Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand" (Isa.41:9-10, New King James Version)

"From the Far East will I bring your offspring, and from the far west I will gather you" (Isa.43:5, Ibid)

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Iglesia ni Cristo Day a non-working holiday

By **CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

has designated a special day for the Iglesia ni Cristo, a church denomination often approached by politicians seeking its so-called bloc support in elections.

Arroyo declared July 27 as “Iglesia ni Cristo Day,” a non-working holiday commemorating the founding anniversary of the sect.

“President Arroyo wishes

to congratulate in advance the INC, at present under the stewardship of Executive Minister Eraño Manalo and Deputy Executive Minister Eduardo Manalo, on this year’s landmark

anniversary,” Malacañang said in a statement.

“Likewise, the President wishes to thank the INC for the very active and significant roles its leaders and members

have always played not only in the spiritual and moral formation of our people over the past several decades, but in nation-building as well,” the Palace said.

Iglesia Ni Cristo's Central Temple in Commonwealth, Philippines. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



ANNIVERSARY

From Page 16

17, 1979, the Church of Christ on Saipan was officially established and registered.

“INC has succeeded not only in the areas of propagation and edification, but also in the field of construction of houses of worship, unhindered by the global economic slowdown,” according to an article in the INC’s publication *God’s Message*.

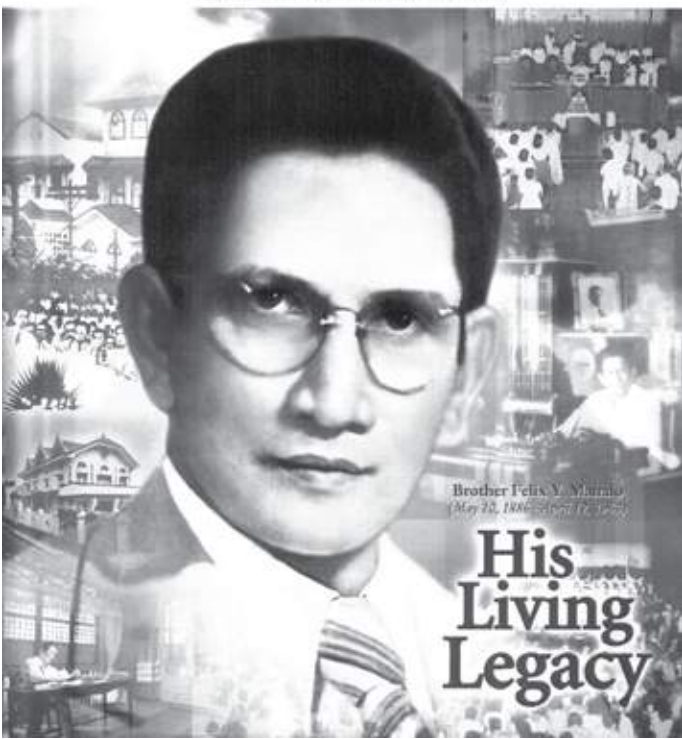
On social and environmental concerns, INC is aware of its role in society.

“Aside from spiritual, the church includes among its concerns the social well-being of the people,” the article read.

INC owns and operates a university and its satellite schools, catering primarily to marginalized members of society.

It has also its own hospital, housing projects, blood donation campaign, environmental conservation campaigns and the like.

PASUGO
GOD'S MESSAGE
MAY 2007 • VOLUME 19 • NUMBER 5 • ISSN 0136-1626



Iglesia Ni Cristo founder, Felix Y. Manalo, is the man whom its members recognize as the “Messenger of God.”

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Iglesia Ni Cristo chapel in Anaheim, California. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



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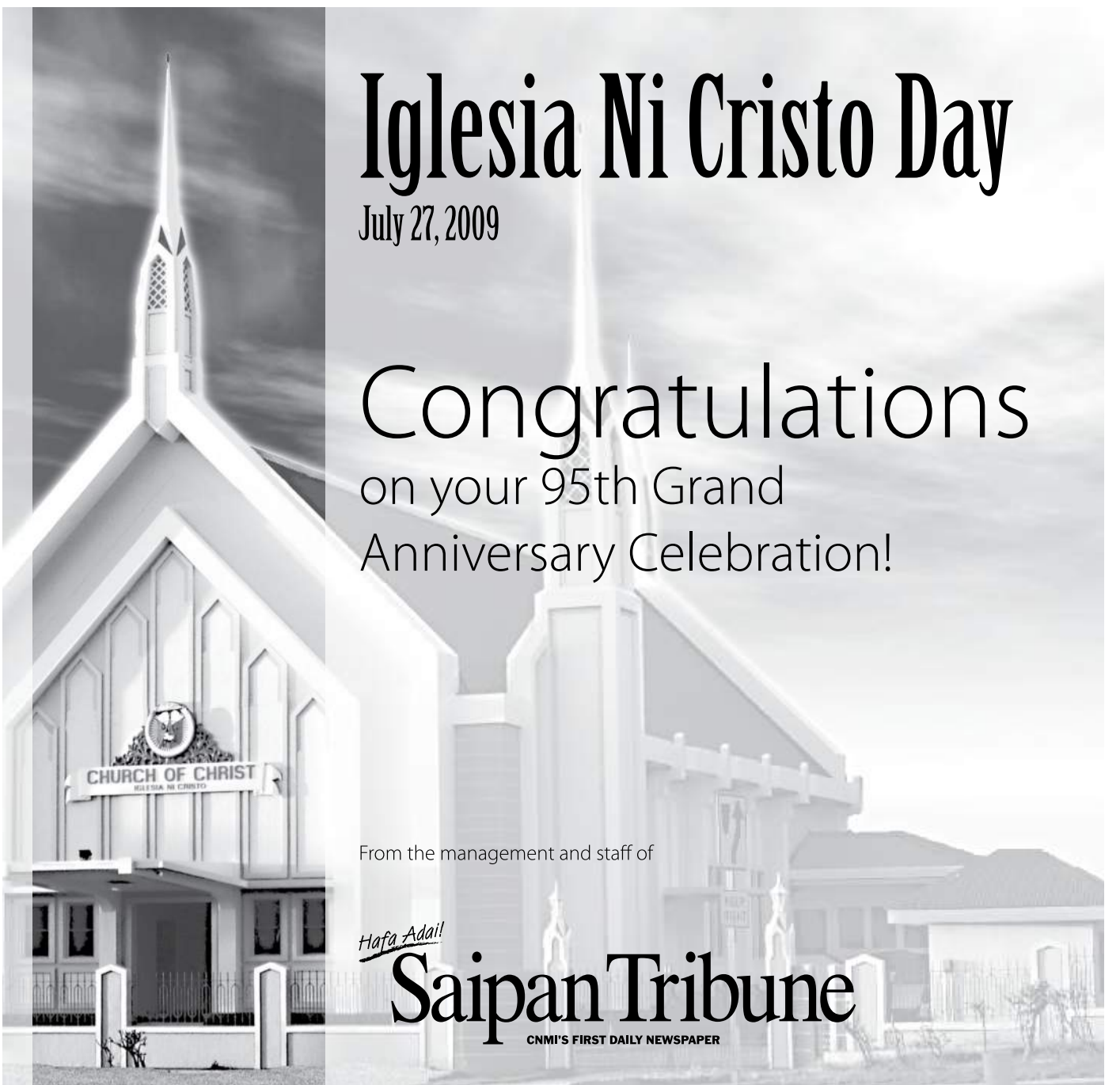
Iglesia Ni Cristo Day

July 27, 2009

Congratulations
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From the management and staff of

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Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



Supreme Court to review OGA suit documents

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Supreme Court said it will review first the documents involved in the Open Government Act lawsuit before issuing a ruling on the motion for reconsideration filed by Rep. Tina Sablan.

Sablan is asking the high court to affirm the trial court's order to release the documents to her.

The trial court held that the government had not offered any proof that withholding the docu-

ments was clearly necessary to protect a government function.

But the government said that the only time it can release the documents is after a decision is reached on the federalization lawsuit it filed against the U.S. government.

The government said that the burden of proof for proving the documents are clearly unnecessary to protect a vital government function is rests solely with Sablan, and not on the government.

Sablan said it is illogical for

her to prove the burden of proof when she had not seen any of the documents.

Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and associate justices John A. Manglona and Alexandro Cruz Castro heard presentations on the opening brief earlier filed by the government through Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and former Finance Secretary Eloy S. Inos.

Assistant Attorney General Braddock Huesman represented the government while Sablan appeared without a lawyer.

The government is asking the

high court to reverse the trial court order to release over 30 various documents to Sablan.

Huesman argued that if the documents are released, "we are giving our adversaries a glimpse of documents that they are not entitled to."

Huesman said this would harm not only the litigation but would also the litigation going forward.

"If we allow certain individuals to interfere with litigations it injures government function," Huesman said.

He said that the so-called "903 Litigation" is an ongoing lawsuit filed by Fitial against the U.S., an effort to halt the implementation of the impending federalization.

Huesman believes that when the federal lawsuit is over, there would be nothing to protect anymore.

Sablan said she cannot see what specific government function the government is trying to protect in not releasing the documents, saying that she just wanted to see how much the govern-

ment had already spent for the federal lawsuit and when the funds came from, among others.

The superior court ordered the government on June 18, 2009, to release certain documents to Sablan within 48 hours but the government filed a motion for stay pending appeal.

The superior court denied the government's appeal.

Huesman filed a petition for a stay of the trial court's order.

The Supreme Court granted the government's petition on June 19.

Bill to make college more affordable clears House committee

Legislation makes single largest investment in Pell Grants and student loans

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Students from the Northern Mariana

Islands will be among the millions of Americans who will see

college become more affordable as a result of legislation approved

by the Education and Labor Committee of the U.S. House of

Representatives this week.

Northern Marianas Congressman Gregorio "Kilili" Camacho Sablan, a member of the Committee, was one of 22 original co-sponsors of the bill and voted for passage by the Committee.

The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act, H.R. 3221, will boost Pell Grant scholarships, lower interest rates on federal tuition loans, create a more reliable and effective financial aid system for families, and enact President Obama's key education priorities.

The bill generates \$100 billion in savings for the federal government by cutting out the middleman in tuition loans, making all student loans directly to students instead of making students and their parents go through a bank.

"The \$100 billion in savings will mean lower interest rates on student loans," said Sablan, "and larger Pell grants. Interest rates should average about 6.3 percent through 2015."

"And the maximum annual Pell Grant scholarship will increase to \$5,550 in 2010 and \$6,900 in 2019."

In addition to making college more affordable for individual students, the bill is also aimed at

aiding community colleges, such as the Northern Marianas College. It sets up competitive grant programs to help community colleges repair and renovate their facilities. There are grants to encourage pilot programs to increase college access and completion. Other grants will help place older students and returning military personnel into community college job training programs.

During the committee's mark-up of the bill Congressman Sablan successfully offered an amendment correcting an oversight that would have excluded the Northern Marianas from some of these community college competitive grants.

"Committee mark-up is the time to fine tune legislation and make technical corrections," said the NMI Congressman. "Getting my amendment passed is a very good example of why the Northern Marianas needs representation in Congress."

"Getting my amendment adopted also shows why a seat on the Education and Labor Committee is strategically important if we want to make a difference for the Northern Marianas that will last 30, 50 years into the future." (PR)

Court orders \$5K bail for overstaying tourist

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos ordered a Chinese tourist to post a bail of \$5,000 following his arrest for failure to leave the CNMI after his four-day visa lapsed.

Respondent Jiang Guo, 53, appeared during a bail hearing with a translator.

Assistant Attorney General Kevin Lynch represented the government.

Inos also ordered Guo to provide the Immigration office three names of persons whom he knows with their contact numbers and addresses.

Guo, who currently lives in Chalan Piao, is now at the custody of the Division of Corrections and was ordered to call the Immigration Office three times a week.

He was also ordered by the judge to draw a map of his residence and must report to

immigration when relocating residency or changing contact numbers.

Guo will return to the court on July 30 at 2pm for an order to show cause.

Assistant Attorney General Kathleen A. Busenkell filed a petition for order to show cause why the respondent should not be deported from the CNMI.

Based on the declaration in support of a warrant-less arrest, Immigration investigator Nicola T. Reyes attested that Guo was admitted to the CNMI on July 4, 2009 and was authorized to stay until July 7, 2009.

Guo was issued for a tourist visa for Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

He failed to submit a renewal of tourist extension application.

Guo was supposed to leave with his tour group on July 7.

The Immigration investigator said the respondent left the tour group instead and failed to depart.

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Water outage scheduled in Puerto Rico, Garapan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announced a water outage scheduled in Puerto Rico and Garapan areas tomorrow, July 25.

The affected customers are those residing along Chalan Pale Arnold from Puerto Rico Shell Gas Station, down south to the intersection of lower Gualo Rai Rd., and north on Beach Rd., to Micro Beach Rd.

The water schedule will be from 7:30am to 6:30pm. CUC said residents from the affected areas should also expect low water pressure on Sunday, July 26.

The CUC Water Division Distribution Maintenance crew is scheduled to work on the Puerto Rico Reservoir to seal all holes and openings, inspect, clean and disinfect the storage tank.

This required work is necessary to protect treated stored water and provide improved overall water quality for public

consumption. This work enables Water Division to comply with the Stipulated Order concerning Drinking Water Operation and Maintenance in concerning major sanitary deficiencies cited during storage tanks inspections. Water service will be restored to affected customers as soon as the work is completed.

Residents are encouraged to practice strict water conservation and to teach children and household workers to save water, especially during this period. Rain water catchment systems, water tanks should be cleaned and float valves installed or replaced to ensure that water does not overflow from any tanks.

For more information, contact Robert Lorenz, acting deputy director for Water & Wastewater Operation, at 235-7032 ext. 1-17 or Mariano Iglecias, Water & Wastewater Operation manager at ext. 155. (PR)

8 sites on Saipan, 1 on Rota red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has raised the red flag on eight sites on Saipan and one site on Rota. It also advises the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, S. Puerto Rico Dump, Smiling Cove Marina, Am. Memorial Park, Garapan Fishing Dock, and San Antonio beach on Saipan and Dist #2 Storm Drain on Rota contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria-enterococci that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain

these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

Samples from Managaha and Tinian did not exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. Therefore, DEQ assigns all of the sampled beach sites a green flag.

DEQ analyzes samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water from 50 locations on Saipan, 10 on Tinian, 12 on Rota, and a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha.

Marine Water Quality Reports are also provided at www.deq.gov.mp and www.cnmicoral-reef.net. The agency welcomes all inquiries as to the quality of the beach water. The public is encouraged to contact DEQ at 664-8500 with any questions concerning this matter. (PR)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings go out to Joel Tudela who is celebrating his birthday today, July 24. Wishing you a great one! God bless you on your special day! Greetings coming out from all your friends and family!



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TOYOTA SEDANS								
R08-022B	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	70447	AQUA	ADH-691	7,999	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	10,799	8,999
R09-003B	2007	CAMRY HYBRID	AUTO	16978	SILVER	ABZ-299	25,299	
U09-052L	2007	YARIS 4DR	AUTO	46775	WHITE	ACE-266	11,499	

TOYOTA SUVs

N/A	2006	RAV4 4X4 LTD	AUTO	58313	SILVER	ACE-760	13,399	
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GM CARS

R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	9,599	6,899
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	10,999	7,499

OTHER CARS & TRUCKS

U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	10,999	6,999
U09-045T	2003	VOLKSWAGEN NEW BEETLE 2DR	AUTO	48440	GREEN	ABX-844	6,999	

GM VAN

R09-009F	2003	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	142674	WHITE	BUS-1079	5,999	
N/A	2007	CHEVY EXPRESS VAN 15-PAX	AUTO	55365	WHITE	BUS-1223	18,399	



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NMC to host free all-day information session on Aug. 6

Those interested in furthering their education and advancing their professional careers are encouraged to attend the Northern Marianas College's free information session on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2009.

The information session will be held at the NMC Student Center in Building J. Individuals can attend the all-day event at anytime between 9am and 7pm.

Representatives from the different degree and certificate programs, as well as counseling, financial aid, and admissions staff will be available to answer questions and to assist in the admissions process. Current students will also be sharing their experiences at NMC.

The college offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science degree in elementary education, associate degrees in business, liberal arts, nursing, natural resource management, criminal justice, hospitality management, and more. Moreover, it offers short-term certificate programs in different vocational, academic, and professional areas.

Individuals who attend the all day information session will not only be able to interact with different degree and program representatives but will also be saving money and time prior to NMC Registration Week (Aug. 17-21).

Those who attend the event qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees **WAIVED** for the Fall 2009 semester—a savings of about \$75.00. In addition, after speaking with NMC experts and receiving their fee waivers individuals can take placement tests on that same day.

This free information session is open to everyone, including high school graduates, high school students and their parents, government and private sector employees, international students, and members of the general public who are interested in learning more about the programs at NMC.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 234-5498 ext. 1528, or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (PR)

Navy to conduct live-fire exercises on FDM

SANTA RITA, GUAM—The U.S. Navy will conduct live-fire exercises on the island of Farallon de Medinilla from 8am to 12:59am on July 27-30.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Medinilla Training Area on a ten nautical mile radius on all quadrants. The general public especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from this area during

the time and date indicated.

The Farallon de Medinilla Target Range is the Pacific Fleet's only U.S.-controlled range available for live-fire training for forward deployed naval forces. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense, because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 339-2115. (PR)

Attention all MHS Class of 1979

The second official 1979 Marianas High School class reunion meeting will be held on July 31 at Irene Takai Camacho's Dandan house at 6pm.

Confirmation of the 30th year class reunion will be discussed and decided. Dips and chips and BYOB. Please call Camacho at 288-2596 or Joe Kaipat at 664-8509 between 8am to 3pm for details. (PR)

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





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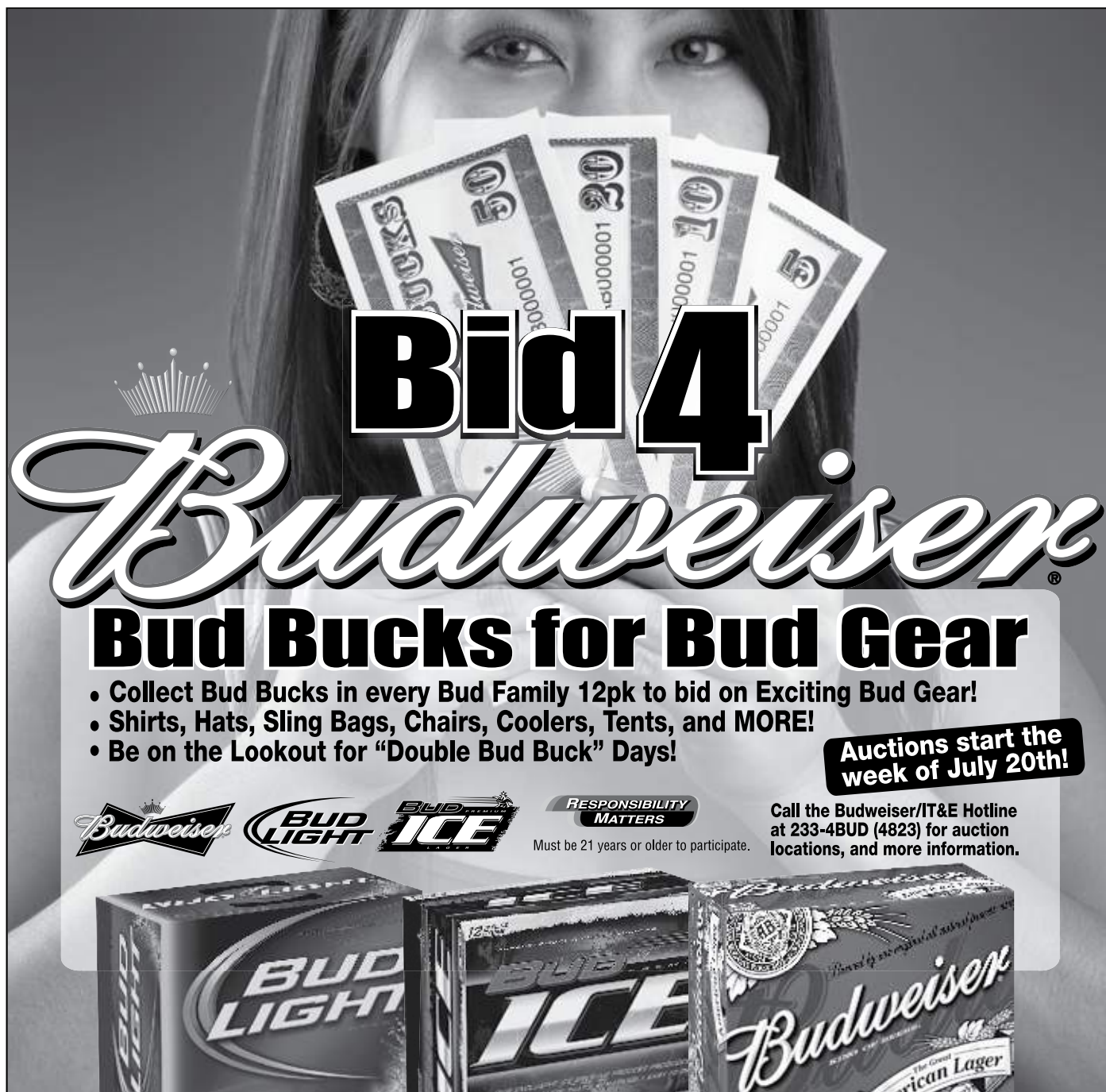
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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Business

Bernanke resisting plan for consumer-products agency

WASHINGTON (AP)—Ben Bernanke put himself at odds with the Obama administration Wednesday by resisting its plan to create a consumer protection agency for risky financial products. The Federal Reserve chief said those responsibilities should stay with the central bank.

Bernanke's pushback on the White House plan comes at a politically delicate time for the Fed chairman. His term expires early next year, and President Barack Obama will have to decide whether to reappoint him.

In his second straight day on Capitol Hill, Bernanke argued that the Fed has expertise that would be difficult to replicate at a new agency. Consumer oversight, he said, coincides with the Fed's mission to oversee the safety and soundness of banks.

Addressing the Senate Banking Committee, Bernanke defended the Fed's record. Yet he acknowledged "that the Federal Reserve did not do all it should have at certain times in the past."

Consumer groups and lawmakers have blamed the Fed under then-chairman Alan Greenspan for failing to crack down early on dubious mortgages practices.

High-risk mortgages fed the housing boom and led to its collapse.

Bernanke, who took over the Fed in February 2006, eventually pushed through tougher rules. Critics, though, said they came too late to ease the mortgage crisis. More recently, lawmakers have pressed the Fed to speed its adoption of rules to better protect Americans from abusive credit card practices.



Bernanke

Mixed earnings put brakes on recent stock market rally

NEW YORK (AP)—Investors aren't giving up on the stock market's rally, but they're not making big bets either.

Stocks ended a quiet day mixed Wednesday as traders were hesitant to commit more money to the market after a weeklong surge. The Dow Jones industrial average and the Standard & Poor's 500 index slipped, while the Nasdaq composite index rose.

A mix of earnings reports drove trading. Apple Inc. and Starbucks Inc. jumped on their results, but chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and big bank Wells Fargo & Co. slid.

The market's incremental moves weren't surprising after strong earnings reports for the April-June quarter lifted major stock indicators up more than 8

percent in just seven days. The gains reignited a rally that ran from early March through mid-June before stalling as signs of improvement in the economy started to dry up.

Analysts say it's not surprising to see the market slow its climb as investors raise their expectations.

"As the earnings season goes on, it becomes more difficult because the bar goes higher and higher," said John Canally, economist at LPL Financial in Boston.

The Dow fell 34.68, or 0.4 percent, to 8,881.26. The broader S&P 500 index slipped 0.51, or 0.1 percent, to 954.07, and the Nasdaq rose 10.18, or 0.5 percent, to 1,926.38, helped by Apple and Starbucks. It was the 11th straight gain for the Nasdaq.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Japan's export fall less severe as recession eases

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's exports in June fell by the smallest margin in six months, adding to evidence that global demand is recovering as the recession loosens its grip. Shipments from the world's second-biggest economy fell 35.7 percent from a year earlier, an improvement from a 40.9 percent decline in May, the government said Thursday. Exports have fallen every month since October. As a result, Japan posted a trade surplus of 508 billion yen (\$5.4 billion)—the first on-year increase in 20 months, according to the Ministry of Finance.

profit falls

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The recession continued to hurt eBay Inc. in the second quarter, as earnings and revenue fell amid a sales decline in the main online marketplace, overshadowing growth in its payments and Skype communications units. The pioneer of online auctions, which is now trying to revitalize its Web site, managed to beat Wall Street's expectations, though, and predicted third-quarter earnings and revenue that are largely in line with analysts' views. Shares of San Jose-based eBay rose 81 cents, or 4.2 percent, in extended trading after the results were released Wednesday. It finished regular trading up 52 cents, or nearly 3 percent, at \$19.45.

Economy keeps hurting eBay as 2Q

Nation

Obama rallies support for struggling health revamp

WASHINGTON (AP)—Six months in office, President Barack Obama sought Wednesday night to rally support for sweeping health care legislation he's struggling to push through Congress, expressing support for a surtax on families making more than \$1 million a year to help pay for it.

Under pressure from Democrats to weigh in personally on the details of legislation, Obama also vowed at a prime-time news conference to reject any measure "primarily funded through taxing middle-class families."

While the session was dominated by health care, Obama said in response to one question that Cambridge, Mass., police "acted stupidly" last week in arresting Henry Louis Gates Jr., a black scholar at Harvard, in his house. Police were called to the house to investigate a possible break-in. Gates produced identification but was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct after protesting the

police conduct.

"Now I don't know, not having been there, what role race played in that," the president said. But he added that blacks and Latinos often are stopped by authorities in disproportionate numbers. Police have dropped charges initially

lodged against Gates.

Obama stepped to the microphone looking grayer than the man who ran for president and took office in January and immediately began confronting the worst economic recession in decades.

Pelosi: House Dems have the votes on health care

WASHINGTON (AP)—Democrats command the votes needed to pass a sweeping health care bill through the House, Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Wednesday, an unexpected statement that quickly drew a biting response from conservative members of the party's rank-and-file demanding changes in President Barack Obama's trademark legislation.

The House's top Democrat also signaled strongly that law-

makers will soon incorporate a provision to curtail growth in Medicare costs into the legislation, although she said it would be done in a way that "respects the prerogatives" of Congress.

The White House and conservative lawmakers want to empower an independent commission to order changes in spending within the giant government health care program for seniors, subject to veto by the House and Senate.

Mass. policeman who arrested Gates won't apologize

NATICK, Mass. (AP)—A white police sergeant accused of racism after he arrested renowned black scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. at his home insisted Wednesday he won't apologize for his treatment of the Harvard professor, but President Barack Obama said police had acted "stupidly."

Gates has demanded an apology from Sgt. James Crowley, who had responded to the home near Harvard University to investigate a report of a burglary and demanded the scholar show him identification. Police say Gates at first

refused and then accused the officer of racism.

Gates said Crowley walked into his home without his permission and only arrested him as the professor followed him to the porch, repeatedly demanding the sergeant's name and badge number because he was unhappy over his treatment.

Obama, during a prime-time news conference, said Wednesday he didn't know what role race played in the incident but added that police in Cambridge, a city neighboring Boston, "acted stupidly" in arresting Gates even after

he offered proof that he was in his own home.

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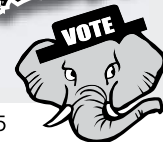


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 Information adapted from U.S. Department of Health & Human Resources, womenshealth.gov



ACROSS THE NATION

Ex-Va. Tech official had gunman's mental records

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP)—The Virginia Tech gunman's missing mental-health records have been found at the home of a former university counseling official more than two years after the bloodbath—a discovery that angered victims' families struggling to understand how the killer fell through the cracks so disastrously. The belated emergence of Seung-Hui Cho's file, a development disclosed in a memo obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press, represents another embarrassing lapse in the case and raises questions about how such potentially explosive evidence could be lost for so long. "Deception comes to my mind in my first response," said Suzanne Grimes, whose son Kevin Sterne was wounded. "It gives me the impression, 'What

else are they hiding?'"

Sect leader gets prison time in Wis. corpse case

MAUSTON, Wis. (AP)—A judge sentenced the leader of a religious sect to 2 years in prison Wednesday for hiding an elderly follower's rotting body on a toilet for weeks. Alan Bushey, 59, of Necedah, kept Magdeline Alvina Middlesworth's corpse on the toilet of another follower, Tammy Lewis, for two months last spring. Middlesworth, 90, moved to Necedah from Washington state in 2005 to join Bushey's sect, the Order of the Divine Will. Prosecutors said Bushey kept the body hidden so he could collect Middlesworth's Social Security checks and annuities. Bushey's attorney, Thomas Steinman, argued that Bushey thought God would bring Middlesworth back to life.

Asia

Clinton laying out terms for NKorea on nukes

PHUKET, Thailand (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton urged Asian nations Thursday to vigorously enforce the latest U.N. sanctions against North Korea. She said Washington would pursue “every avenue” to denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

Clinton also was holding out the prospect of full diplomatic relations and other incentives for

North Korea to scrap its nuclear weapons program.

In remarks to delegates at a security forum of the Association of South East Asian Nations, Clinton lamented the suffering of North Korea’s people while stressing her view that the most urgent security is-



Clinton

sue in Asia is North Korea’s illicit nuclear program.

“North Korea must end its pursuit of nuclear weapons and fulfill its pledges” to verifiably dismantle its nuclear arms production complex, she said, according to a text of her prepared remarks. “North Korea’s re-

sponse in turn has been more threatening behavior.”

She called on the international community to implement the U.N. sanctions that are intended to deny North Korean ships access to ports for shipping banned cargo and to co-operate in enforcing financial sanctions against designated firms that support North Korea’s nuclear program.

Mumbai gunman says he’s ready for gallows

MUMBAI, India (AP)—The young Pakistani gunman who confessed to his role in the Mumbai attacks says he would rather be hanged in this world than face “God’s punishment” in the next. The Indian court trying Ajmal Kasab has yet to accept his confession and guilty plea for taking part in one of the worst terrorist attacks in Indian history—three days of carnage in November that left 166 people dead.

Judge M.L. Tahilyani said he would decide Thursday whether to accept the confession, which describes in detail Kasab’s links with a shadowy but well-organized group in Pakistan.

“Whatever I have done, I have done in this world. It would

be better to be punished in this world. It would be better than God’s punishment. That’s why I have pleaded guilty,” Kasab told the court Wednesday.

Kasab unexpectedly confessed Monday to taking part on the first day of the attacks in downtown Mumbai, India’s financial and entertainment capital. His statement bolsters India’s charges that terrorist groups in neighboring Pakistan were behind the well-planned attack, and that it is not doing enough to clamp down on them.

“If I am hanged for this, I am not bothered,” he said. “I don’t want any mercy from the court. I understand the implications of my accepting the crime.”

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thai security destroy motorcycle near conference

PHUKET, Thailand (AP)—Security forces guarding an Asian security conference in Thailand have destroyed a motorcycle that they believed was loaded with explosives. The bike, whose owner had abandoned it because it had a flat tire, was found about 300 yards (meters) from the main venue of the ASEAN Regional Forum on Thursday, said Army Lt. Gen. Kanit Sapitkak. Foreign ministers and other officials of more than 30 countries, including U.S. Secretary of State

Hillary Rodham Clinton, were meeting there. Kanit said there were indications of explosives on the motorcycle after it was sniffed by dogs. Security forces destroyed it in a controlled explosion. It was later determined that the bike was not armed. “We didn’t want to take any chances,” he said.

8 dead, 9 missing in floods in southern Japan

TOKYO (AP)—Hundreds of police, soldiers and rescue workers searched Thursday for nine people missing after torrential rains triggered floods and landslides in southern Japan. Eight people, including elderly residents of a nursing home, have been killed. Most of about 100 residents of the home were brought to the roof and lifted out by helicopter Tuesday after a mudslide hit the building. But five residents were killed before the rescue, and two are still missing. The ground floor of the two-story building in Hofu City in Yamaguchi Prefecture (state) was inundated, filled with rocks and mud.

Karzai says no to first Afghan presidential debate

KABUL (AP)—President Hamid Karzai said Wednesday he will not take part in Afghanistan’s first major televised presidential debate, leaving his top two challengers to talk between themselves—if they show up. A debate was scheduled to take place Thursday on the most-watched TV network among Karzai, former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah and former Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani. But after Karzai pulled out with barely 24 hours to go, an aide to Abdullah said the former foreign minister might not participate either.

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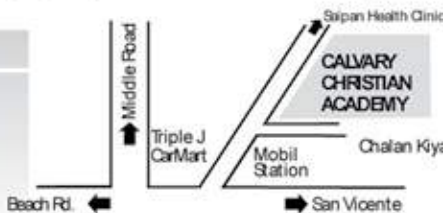


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World

Honduras talks falter, ousted leader vows return

WORLD BRIEFS

Ruling on oil region bolsters peace in Sudan

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)—Sudan's fragile peace overcame a major hurdle Wednesday when a legal panel drew a compromise map splitting an oil-rich region between the government-held north and the semiautonomous south controlled by former rebels. The court ruling on the Abyei region gave the northern government control of significant oil fields and handed the southern administration a large area that contains the home villages of many of those who fought during a 20-year civil war. The international community urged the north and south to swiftly implement the ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration, which was hailed as just by both sides.

Police seize 'La Dolce Vita' cafe for mob ties

ROME (AP)—Italian authorities on Wednesday seized about euro200 million (\$284 million) in assets and businesses owned by a crime syndicate, including the Café de Paris of "La Dolce Vita" movie fame. Rome police

and anti-mafia officials said that 12 other restaurants, apartments and luxury cars allegedly linked to the 'ndrangheta were also impounded in the operation. The Café de Paris, which became a symbol of La Dolce Vita, or "the sweet life," in the 1960s remains open, Rome police official Daniele Galimberti said.

Israel cuts 1948 'catastrophe' from Arabic texts

JERUSALEM (AP)—The Israeli government will remove references to what Palestinians call the "catastrophe" of Israel's creation from textbooks for Arab schoolchildren, the education minister said Wednesday. The reference to "al-naqba," the Arabic word catastrophe, as Palestinians call their defeat and exile in the war over Israel's 1948 creation, was inserted by a dovish Israeli education minister in 2007. The phrase remains contentious six decades later, a symptom of the continuing divisions in Israel. Many Israeli Arabs identify politically with their Palestinian counterparts in the West Bank and Gaza. As a result, some Israeli Jews accuse Israeli Arabs of disloyalty to the country.

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)—Talks on resolving the Honduran political crisis headed toward failure Wednesday when the interim government indicated it would reject a mediator's final proposal for returning ousted President Manuel Zelaya to power.

Zelaya, who is in neighboring Nicaragua, declared the mediation effort a failure and vowed to return to Honduras on Friday without an agreement. He said he would travel to northern Nicaragua on Thursday and try to cross the border by land the next day accompanied by his wife and children.

"The coup leaders are totally refusing my reinstatement," Zelaya, who wore a white cowboy hat and arrived escorted by local police, told a news conference in the Nicaraguan capital,

Managua. "By refusing to sign, (the talks) have failed."

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who mediated the talks with U.S. backing, presented an 11-point plan that called for Zelaya's return to the presidency in two days and offered amnesty for the coup leaders that ousted him.

Arias said the plan was his last attempt at mediating a peaceful solution to the conflict. He said Zelaya and the interim gov-

ernment should turn to the Organization of American States for a new mediator if they refuse to sign the agreement.

Arias warned both sides that time was running out for a peaceful solution and urged them to set an example by becoming the first country in modern history to reverse a coup through a negotiated agreement.



Zelaya

Iran president defies supreme leader over deputy

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad showed rare defiance of his strongest backer, Iran's supreme leader, by insisting on his choice for vice president Wednesday despite vehement opposition from hard-liners that

has opened a deep rift in the conservative leadership.

The tussle over the appointment comes at a time when the clerical leadership is facing its strongest challenge in decades following last month's disputed presidential election.

Biden pledges support for Georgia, Ukraine

TBILISI, Georgia (AP)—U.S. Vice President Joe Biden on Wednesday pledged support for efforts by Ukraine and Georgia to break free of Russia's orbit, saying Washington would not recognize Kremlin claims to an exclusive sphere of influence over former Soviet states.

Biden's assurances in visits to both countries bluntly addressed the most volatile issue dividing Russia and the West, and were offered just two weeks after President Barack Obama was in Moscow seeking to heal U.S.-Russia relations.

"As we reset the relationship with Russia, we reaffirm our commitment to an independent Ukraine, and we recognize no sphere of influence or no ability of any other nation to veto the choices an independent nation makes," Biden declared in Kiev, Ukraine's capital.

Biden's comments underlined the U.S. commitment to encour-

aging Western-style democracies among former Soviet states, despite Russia's open hostility to what it considers meddling in its back yard.

At a banquet in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi on Wednesday evening, Biden said he wanted to send "an unequivocal, clear message to all who will listen and some who don't want to listen, that America stands with you and will continue to stand."

Russian troops crushed Georgia's military in a brief war in Georgia last August, about five years after the country's 2003 Rose Revolution brought President Mikhail Saakashvili to power and ousted a Soviet-era leader.

For weeks this spring, tens of thousands of Georgians jammed central Tbilisi demanding Saakashvili's resignation, accusing him of strengthening his power at the expense of democratic rights. Those protests gradually waned.

politicians have denounced Ahmadinejad's choice for the post of first vice president, Esfandiar Rahim Mashai, because Mashai said last year that Iranians are friends with Israelis. There are also concerns because Mashai is a relative of Ahmadinejad—his daughter is married to the president's son.



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Off the Wall

Dead shark left in Miami street after failed sale

MIAMI (AP)—The body of a shark was left lying in the middle of a downtown Miami street after two men tried to sell it to several fish markets. The men apparently carried the five or six-foot-long fish around on the city's Metromover downtown train, prompting calls to police.

News footage Tuesday night showed the dead animal in the street with police officers and cruisers nearby. Two stations reported that a pair of men had tried to sell the animal to at least three fish markets for around \$10.

Rob Orta, an employee at Casablanca Fish Market, told television station WSVN that the men



A City of Miami Crime Scene Investigator photographs a dead shark that was discovered in the middle of NW 5th Ave. in Miami late Tuesday evening, July 21, 2009 after two men tried to sell it to several fish markets.

offered his business the shark.

"But we don't buy sharks off the street," Orta told the station.

Wildlife officials later determined the animal was a nurse shark. The case could result in misdemeanor charges of improper killing and disposal of an animal and selling a shark without a license.

One resident of the area where the shark was dumped said he didn't know what was going on at first.

"It was a relief that it was a shark," said Keith Smith. "When I first saw it, I thought it was a body because of all the shootings that have been going on."

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Man claims he found condom in French onion soup

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—A man has sued a local Claim Jumper restaurant claiming he ordered French onion soup and bit into a condom instead of melted cheese. Zdenek Philip Hodousek filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Orange County Superior Court seeking unspecified damages over fears he may have contracted a disease. Hodousek's attorney Eric Traut said his client wants to have restaurant employees' DNA tested to find a match to the condom. A public relations firm representing Claim Jumper said no one can prove the so-called "foreign object" Hodousek took from the restaurant is the item that was submitted to a lab for testing. The firm said an internal probe revealed no employee wrongdoing.

Cop accused of pulling gun while waiting for food

AURORA, Colo. (AP)—A Denver police officer has been charged with felony menacing for allegedly brandishing his gun at a McDonald's restaurant after getting tired of waiting for his food. Derrick Curtis, 29, Saunders also face charges of prohibited use of a weapon, reckless endangerment and disorderly conduct. An employee at the Aurora restaurant told investigators that two Denver police officers were waiting for their food at the drive-through window May 21 when one grew impatient and pulled his gun. No one was injured. Denver police spokesman Sonny Jackson told The Denver Post that Saunders had been suspended with pay and would be put on unpaid leave once the department is formally notified of the charges. There was no answer Monday at a phone number listed for Derrick Saunders.

Man uses beer to entice alleged burglar to leave

BAR HARBOR, Maine (AP)—Police said a homeowner in Maine used a beer to entice an intoxicated intruder to leave. The intruder apparently didn't realize that it was a nonalcoholic beer. Bar Harbor police said the homeowner awoke early Monday to find 22-year-old Scott Cote in the bedroom and used the beer to convince him to carry on. Police said they found Cote breaking into cars a short time later and arrested him after he fled into some woods. Police arrested Cote on charges of burglary, criminal mischief, operating a motor vehicle after revocation and violating the conditions of release. Cote was returned to the Hancock County Jail after an initial appearance in court Tuesday. No lawyer has been assigned to represent him.

Police: Fla. woman practiced dentistry in garage

NAPLES, Fla. (AP)—Florida officials have arrested a woman for allegedly practicing dentistry in a garage she converted into an office with a drill set and black reclining chair. Rosa Maria Toledo, 56, was arrested Tuesday. In her garage deputies found a cabinet containing dental castings, molds, dental crown glues, partial dentures and bridges. They said she had a ledger containing information for hundreds of patients. Deputies said they had information she had practiced as a dentist in Mexico before moving to the U.S. Toledo was charged with practicing dental hygiene without an active license and being a non-licensed person leasing or operating dental equipment.

Man says he hit left-and right-handed holes-in-one

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio (AP)—An Ohio man who says he's not much of a golfer pulled off a feat that not even some of the best players can match. Ed Platzer of Bowling Green knocked in a left-handed hole-in-one last month, 15 years after he hit a right-handed hole-in-one. Platzer said he's a natural lefty but learned to play right-handed when he couldn't find any left-handed clubs. He started hitting from the other side four years ago when he bought some left-handed clubs. The United States Golf Register tracks holes-in-one. It said it couldn't find anyone who has matched the Bowling Green man's achievement in its database that covers the last 13 years.

Pa. fire chief reunited by chance with lost dog

DERRY, Pa. (AP)—A volunteer fire chief from Pennsylvania has been reunited with a dog he gave up five years ago, after he discovered the animal was at a shelter where firefighters had taken two other dogs rescued from a cliff. Eastern Derry Fire Chief Derrick Bollinger was one of a handful of firefighters who rescued the other dogs on Friday. Another firefighter rappelled 20 feet down a cliff to reach the animals. The dogs were taken to the Action of Animals Humane Society shelter in Derry Township, where the director told Bollinger she had a Dalmatian that would be an ideal mascot for the fire company. Bollinger told the shelter director he had to give up his dog when he moved five years ago, only to discover the shelter's Dalmatian was the same dog, Halligan.

Message of Appreciation

The organizing committee of the
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Science & Technology

Social network for gamers helps friends play

NEW YORK (AP)—Raptr, a social network targeting gamers, is hoping to make it easier to see what your friends are currently playing on a broad range of platforms such as the Xbox 360 and personal computers.

And if you want, you can join them in the action.

On Wednesday, Raptr launched new software that integrates various instant-messaging services, as well as Twitter and Facebook, and automatically updates users' status with the games they are currently playing.

It recognizes about 32,000 games, including hardcore titles like "Halo 3," music games like "Guitar Hero" and social games such as Zynga's "YoVille" on Facebook.

And if your friend is in the midst of a multiplayer game, you can join in, provided

you've installed Raptr on your computer, for free.

"Most people prefer to play

with friends, ... but finding friends and playing with them is hard," CEO and founder Dennis

Fong said. "Your friends are everywhere, and they play games on a lot of different platforms."

2009 TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS



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TECHNOLOGY BRIEFS

Apple 3Q beats Street despite recession

SEATTLE (AP)—Apple Inc. seems to have missed the memo—you know, the one about the recession. Cupertino, Calif.-based Apple coasted past Wall Street's expectations for its fiscal third quarter on a wave of laptop and iPhone sales. It did it during a quarter in which total computer shipments fell worldwide. And it did it without sacrificing profit. Investors sent Apple's stock up \$6.82, or 4.5 percent, to \$158.33 in after-hours trading Tuesday. Shares had dipped \$1.40 to end regular trading at \$151.51.

New e-book reader to use AT&T network

NEW YORK (AP)—Following in the footsteps of Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle, another e-book reader is set to get a wireless connection from a cellular carrier, letting it access books anywhere there's a signal. AT&T Inc. planned to announce Wednesday that it will support an electronic book reading device due early next year from Plastic Logic Ltd., a Mountain View, Calif.-based startup based on British display technology.

Microsoft says Windows 7 is ready for PC companies

SEATTLE (AP)—Microsoft Corp. says Windows 7 is complete. The software maker sent the final code for its next computer operating system to manufacturers Wednesday, and said it's still on track for an Oct. 22 launch. Mike Angiulo, a general manager in the Windows group, said in an interview that getting up and running on a Windows computer will be "a lot smoother" than it was when Windows Vista launched in 2007.

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Priniponen Atkilon Tanu Publiku

Notisia ginen i Depattamienton Tanu Publiku: Guaha priniponen atkilon tanu publiku espesifikamente Tanu Numeru 076 D 15, puku mas o’ menus 3,000 metru kuatdrao minidoñgña gi katan estatuan Matsue giya Garapan. I mapa yan todo infotmasion pot este na tanu gaige gi depattamienton tanu giya Dandan, segundu bibi-enda gi Joeten Dandan Building.

I para u inatkila este na lugat i Marianas Fitness, Ltd., un’ kompania guine. I membron kuetpon este na kompania i sigiente siha: Russel D. Quinn, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexfod C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela Gabaldon, Christopher J. Nelson, and Brett D. Nelson.

I offisiat siha i sigiente: Russell D. Quinn, presidente; Marian Aldan-Pierce, segundu presidente; Rexford C. Kosack, sekretariu; yan Yoshio S. Gabaldon, tresurariu. I kontratan este na atkilon manegosiu as Señor Kosack yan Señora Aldan-Pierce.

I umatkikila este na tanu publiku libre umusa i lugat pot bisnis eksisiu taimanu i gaige pago na fasilidat gi Marianas Fitness, Ltd. I tetminon atkilon bente siñku años (25 years) yan appottunidat ma-ekstenden este na atkilon talu kinse años (15 years).

I atkilon tanu kada sakan guaha figura mapega halom guine na kontrata segun i balin i lugat ni monhayan esta marikonose gi hilu i mafananaan “appraisal” ripot (katkulon balin tanu) ginen un’ kualifikao na kompania.

I Depattamenton Tano taya otro plano ha resibe gi uson este siha na propiadat publiko giya Garapan, Saipan.

Kopian este na proposito gaige gi todo offisinan tanu publiku entalu Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Libre kada sudadanu rumikonose este na dokumentu. I kabesanten depattamintun tanu publiku siña in’ tigie’ yangin guaha sentimientun miyu pot i mapropopone. Este na anunsiu areglon Lai Publiku 15-2. I uttimu haanen muna’ halom opitiñon i Agosto dia 7, 2009 gi todo Offisinan Tano Publiku giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Allégghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwilil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf’ igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong aghiighiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap me bwal Allégghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoor, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwaári Lot No 076 D 15, eyoor eluuw sangaras llapal (3, 000 square meters), elapeló me ngáre eghús, elo Liyo, Luuta. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Marianas Fitness, Ltd., CNMI corporation. Schóóy Assamwoolul mwiisch (board of directors) mellól corporation nge Russel D. Queen, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexford C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela N. Gabaldon, Chistopher I. Nelson, me Brett D. Nelson..

Samwoolul (President) corporation nge Russell D. Quinn.. Arúschayúl assamwool (vice president) nge Marian Aldan-Pierce. Sekkeretorio nge Rexford C. Kosack. Treasurer nge Yoshio S. Gabaldon..

- iii. Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Rexford C. Kosack me Ms. Marian Aldan-Pierce..
- iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe yááli bwuley reel mwóghutufisch ngáre leliyal ammey (fitness gymnasium) fengál me wiisal,.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limoow ráágh (15 years).

Pomwol akkilon yeel llól alongal ráágh nge ebwe mwir sáangi llapal méél falúw (value of the property) me bwal meeta kka e akkayú mellol bwuley yeel.

- v. Tilighial akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llól Tuturam, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- vi. Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Arabwal, Seipél..
- vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal August (Elúwel) 7, 2009 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyól.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No. 076 D 15, containing an area of approximately 3,000 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- ii. The prospective lessee is Marianas Fitness, Ltd., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Russell D. Quinn, Marian Aldan-Pierce, Rexford C. Kosack, Yoshio S. Gabaldon, Kanae S. Quinn, Richard A. Pierce, Clarie S. Kosack, Angela N. Gabaldon, Christopher J. Nelson, and Brett D. Nelson.

The President of the Corporation is Russell D. Quinn. The Vice President is Marian Aldan-Pierce. The Secretary is Rexford C. Kosack. The Treasurer is Yoshio S. Gabaldon.

- iii. The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Rexford C. Kosack and Ms. Marian Aldan-Pierce.
- iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of operating an all-purpose fitness gymnasium and other related support facilities.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property, including existing structure(s).

- v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Garapan, Saipan.
- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before August 7, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Life & Style

Evil children subgenre can chill moviegoers

NEW YORK (AP)—Evil kids: Can’t live with ‘em, can’t kill ‘em.

Well, actually, you can. Unless they kill you first.

Ever since Patty McCormack’s sickeningly sweet murderess Rhoda Penmark in “The Bad Seed” in the mid-’50s, the horror movie subgenre featuring inherently wicked children has been scaring people no matter their age.

Now along comes “Orphan,” starring Isabelle Fuhrman as Esther, who would be a formidable foe for Damien from “The Omen” movies, those shiny-eyed towheads from “Village of the Damned” or glowering little Billy from “The Twilight Zone,” who controls everyone with his telepathic wishes.

Esther comes across as the near perfect child, with her politeness, painting and piano playing—until she smashes a bird’s head with a rock and forces a nun to drive off a snowy road, just for starters.

The most recent film in the Harry Potter series, “Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince,” invokes the evil-child theme as well. It features flashbacks to the childhood of young Tom Riddle, who would go on to become the dark Lord Voldemort; even when Tom was a student at Hogwarts, it was obvious to his professors that he was powerful in a potentially dangerous way.

Evil-kid movies are revered enough that they’ve received the highest form of flattery: being sent up by other movies and TV shows, including “The Simpsons.” And “Family Guy” offers up a regular character: matricidal little Stewie, who wanted to kill Lois for the longest time.

Besides their imitators, such films have their antecedents as well, Seton Hall University film professor Christopher Sharrett points out. All of them build on the “increasing disbelief in the idea of innocence,” he says.

“You see the idea in ‘Angels with Dirty Faces,’ the Dead End Kids, and in the postwar years, the teenpic or ‘juvenile delinquent’ film of the Cold War that poses the teenager as internal threat to adult values,” Sharrett explains.

Wheeler Winston Dixon, a University of Nebraska film professor who’s written about evil children in film, says the enduring appeal of demon children in horror films is the fear of the unknown.

“Children are seen as ‘blank slates’ to a degree, and also as essentially ‘unknowable,’ because they live in a world very different from the adult world, in which fantasy and reality intermingle,” he says. “Parents wonder what their children will become, and while they wish the best for them, they often feel as if they have no control over them. It is this essential lack of knowledge, and the fear that the



In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros., Isabelle Fuhrmann and Vera Farmiga, left, are shown in a scene from, “Orphan.”

children have a secret world which adults can’t enter, which drives our fear of childhood as a separate domain.”

Josh Heuman of Texas A&M University suggests that the movies play “on the dirty little secret that kids aren’t sweet and innocent, and the anxiety that it provokes.”

“They’re little monsters, and not necessarily in the affectionate sense,” Heuman says. “I’m thinking of my wonderful 2-year-old’s outlandish force of will, and then the ‘It’s a Good Life’ episode of ‘The Twilight Zone.’ Billy is hyperbole, but not unrealism or irony!”

Yes, even in real life, the little dickens can frighten you.

Dixon notes that Rhoda in “The Bad Seed” was the first mainstream demon child, but the trope really took off with the 1960 British science fiction film “Village of the Damned” and the sequel “Children of the Damned,” in which a mysterious force impregnates all the women villagers simultaneously.

“They simply want to dominate adults, and destroy them if they thwart their plans,” he says. “In a way, this can be seen as a reaction to the nascent rise of juvenile delinquency in the late 1950s—when American youth culture was first firmly established, along with the rise of rock ‘n’ roll, as a perceived threat to then normative postwar values.”

Children were easier to control before the advent of television, which exposed them to “the secret playbook of the adult world,” says Glenn Sparks, a professor of communication at Purdue University, citing a 1986 analysis by Joshua Meyrowitz in the book “No Sense of Place.”

Before television, society was relatively well-defined by widely shared social boundaries, Meyrowitz argued. But when TV took hold in the 1950s, one of the medium’s most profound effects was to break down those well-established boundaries.

The playbook was no longer effective.

“Orphan” screenwriter David Leslie Johnson says he loved the evil-child horror subgenre ever since he saw “The Bad Seed”—which did seem like a revelation in the mid-20th century.

“If you look at the other movies that were coming out at that time, it’s like the movie came

from outer space. There was nothing out there like it.”

And it was so horrifying, that the filmmakers—forced somewhat by the Hollywood code that crime should never pay—gave it a deus ex machina ending so Rhoda doesn’t get away with murder. (In the original book and Broadway play, she does.) To further reassure the audience, they even went so far as to break down the fourth wall with the closing credits with a spanking played for laughs.

In many of these films, the father is absent or bamboozled by his precious prince or princess; it’s left to the mother to come to the slow, horrifying realization about her offspring.

“Orphan” is similar: Vera Farmiga’s character—troubled by alcoholism, a miscarriage and guilt over the near death of her deaf daughter—figures out there’s something wrong with Esther. Peter Sarsgaard as the father doubts his wife because of her past unreliability and is quite taken in by his newly adopted child. (Even before its release, “Orphan” has provoked anger from adoption advocates.)

“There’s just something really primal in that mother-child relationship,” Johnson says, “so I felt like that was really the best relationship to exploit and corrupt, to take what should be the most natural bond in the world and turn them into enemies.”

Maria Pramaggiore, a professor of film studies at North Carolina State University, has an explanation. Invoking “Rosemary’s Baby,” and the “Alien” franchise, she says: “In our culture, women in films are sexual or maternal. I wish we had moved beyond this dichotomy, but I can’t say we have.”

And then, Pramaggiore says, there’s the “child as replica issue.”

“They are born having inherited things from others and yet they are their own people,” she says.

Johnson can relate to Pramaggiore’s point. The screenwriter’s wife is pregnant with their first child, and he’s reading various books to prepare. The tomes impart a sense of mortality, he says, adding:

“It’s a little bit of ‘Body Snatchers.’ They look somewhat like you and even act a bit like you and eventually, they come to replace you.”

Countersuit filed over ‘Brutal Legend’ video game

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—The maker of an upcoming video game starring Jack Black has accused gaming giant Activision in a lawsuit of trying to kill the project to preserve its popular “Guitar Hero” franchise.

The allegations were made in a countersuit filed last week by San Francisco-based Double Fine Productions against Activision Entertainment Inc., which sued the gamemaker in June. Activision’s suit aimed to stop release of “Brutal Legend” by rival firm Electronic Arts.

“Brutal Legend” is scheduled for release in October. It features Black as a heavy-metal



AP
In this video game image released by Electronic Arts, the character Eddie Riggs, voiced by actor Jack Black, left, is shown in a scene from the game, “Brutal Legend.”

‘The Secret’ to be revealed for teens this fall

NEWYORK (AP)—It’s teen time for “The Secret.” Rhonda Byrne’s self-help multimedia phenomenon, which has sold millions of copies, will come out this fall in an edition for young people. “The Secret to Teen Power” will be written by Paul Harrington, who produced the DVD version of the original “Secret.”

According to Simon Pulse, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, the new book will show “how teens can transform their own lives and live their dreams, by understanding and using the power they have in their hands.” Simon Pulse announced Wednesday that “The Secret to Teen Power” will have a first printing of 500,000.

roadie transported to a mythical ancient world to fight evil.

A hearing is scheduled July 30 on a motion by Activision to block the game’s release.

Double Fine’s countersuit contends Activision’s lawsuit was filed to hurt the company and the game, and that it was involved in unlawful business practices and a conspiracy to protect “Guitar Hero” sales.

Activision’s “purpose is not only to cancel ‘Brutal Legend,’ but to kill it completely so that ‘Guitar Hero’ would not have to face the competition,” the lawsuit claims.

Activision said in a statement that Double Fine’s claims are “meritless and, in fact, Activision has every intention of exercising its legal right as Brutal Legend’s publisher to release the game.”

Double Fine was developing “Brutal Legend” for Vivendi Universal Games, which is now Activision Entertainment Holdings Inc.

But Double Fine’s suit claims

Activision never showed interest in the game and canceled it in 2008 after it acquired Vivendi Universal Games. That was after an effort to convert the game into a “Guitar Hero” sequel failed, the suit claims.

Double Fine said in a statement it intends to fight for the

survival of “Brutal Legend,” which has been heavily promoted at this year’s Electronic Entertainment Expo and on gaming Web sites.

“Now that we’ve found a publisher and the game is getting sensational coverage, they want to stop its release,” Double Fine Chief Operating Officer Caroline Esmurdoc wrote in a statement. “Double Fine’s countersuit is a demonstration of our intention to fight for this game—Activision will not kill ‘Brutal Legend.’”

Double Fine states in its lawsuit that the company’s survival depends on the successful release of “Brutal Legend.”

The suit claims Activision prefers to develop games based on its successful roster, including the “Call of Duty” and “World of Warcraft” series, and games based on movies, rather than original titles.

Activision’s initial lawsuit claimed it and Double Fine had negotiated to try to keep the game, which suffered some delays, on track. An agreement was never reached, and Activision contends it never relinquished its rights to the game and that Double Fine improperly transferred “Brutal Legend” to Electronic Arts.

Activision claimed it would be seriously harmed if EA were allowed to release the game.

Double Fine’s countersuit seeks a judge’s ruling that Activision actually terminated its agreement and that the company was free to sell it to EA.

EA, based in Redwood City, is also a gaming heavyweight, with rights to the popular “Madden NFL,” “Medal of Honor” and “The Sims” franchises.

Double Fine’s lawsuit states that delays in the game’s development were caused by the casting of top-notch voice talent to accompany Black’s vocals, and to expand its single-player mode. Those changes were requested by Vivendi Universal Games, according to the lawsuit.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB09-DPH-122**

SUBMISSION / OPENING DATE: AUGUST 4, 2009 • TIME: 9:30 A.M.

**“PURCHASE OF TEN (10) LAPTOP
COMPUTERS, FOUR (4) RANGE EXPANDER
AND ONE (1) WIRELESS ROUTER FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOUR.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT. AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE. BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ **JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ**
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
Director, P&S

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
(This Ad paid for by NMHC with HUD Funds)

PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REPROGRAMMING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS**

Program Year	Activity No.	Activity Type	Activity Name	Activity Status	Amount from program	Reprogram to
2008		Public Facilities	Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School Rehabilitation of Buildings B, F, and G	Cancelled	\$800,000.00	
2008		Public Facilities	CNMI Football Complex	New		\$800,000.00

The public is invited to provide written and oral comments on the proposed reprogramming. Written comments will be accepted no later than 4:30 p.m., August 7, 2009, at the main office in Garapan, Post Office Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950. Oral comments may be relayed to Zenie P. Mafnas at telephone number (670) 234-7670, 6866, 7689, or 9447. Also, a public hearing regarding the reprogramming will be held at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School Cafeteria on August 13, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. Public comments will also be welcomed at such time. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations to submit comments may also contact Zenie P. Mafnas at the telephone numbers above for assistance.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@ptpicom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES**

**TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT NO. CPA-TA-002-08**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for general improvements to be made to the departure and arrival terminals at the Tinian International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These improvements consist of, but are not limited to, electrical stub-out extensions aluminum storefront door and window system, sanitary sewer system, including grease trap interceptors, air-conditioning of VIP Lounge at new terminal, installation of rollout conveyor doors, replacement of automatic doors and aluminum storefront system at existing terminal building, lightning protection and grounding system, repainting work at existing terminal, baggage handling conveyor system, replacement of existing wooden fascia at the existing terminal building, replacement of roof tiles and waterproofing of existing terminal building roof, new furniture for departure terminal, renovation of restrooms at existing terminal building, renovation of storefront door leading to apron side at existing terminal building, general renovation to newly completed terminal departure building, and fencing of transformer area.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below: (This project is primarily an architectural type project).

- Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- A/E Design experience related to projects federally funded in whole or in part;
- Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with the federally funded projects;
- The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for projects, and the firm’s professional integrity and competence; and
- Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable. Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, July 24, 2009.**

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330. Only firms who have established an office in the Commonwealth and a valid business license will be considered.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Mr. Efrain F. Camacho, PE
Executive Director/Contracting Officer
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ **EFRAIN F. CAMACHO**
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: June 25, 2009

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@ptpicom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE LOADING BRIDGES
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-004-09**

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing preventive maintenance services for four (4) loading bridges. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, June 26, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport”. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Copies of approved surety companies and the bid bond form may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director on **July 22, 2009.**

Contractor will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA’s requirements. These requirements apply to contracts where the Consultant provides designated professional services to the Authority; i.e. appraisers, architects, equipment maintenance, messengers, construction managers, etc. and the total contract price is less than \$250,000. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director on **July 22, 2009.**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: July 22, 2009

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax, (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SALE

**UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST**

William S. Pangelinan and Diana C. Pangelinan (collectively “Trustor”), on or about February 25, 1985, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (“Trustee”), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office (“USDA”), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America (“FmHA”), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 27, 1985 under Document No. 85-0479 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA, Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

Lot No. 005 1 124, containing an area of 1,092 square meters, more or less, as shown on Cadastral Plat No. 005 1 02, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 16707 on March 11, 1983, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on June 12, 2009. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee will, on August 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **\$51,150.00**. Sealed bids will be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than **August 13, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.** All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than **August 13, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.** Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier’s check to NMHC and shall be paid within three (3) working days from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 14th day of July, 2009.

/s/ **JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO**
Corporate Director NMHC

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Jackson doc lawyer: Police seek manslaughter link

HOUSTON (AP)—The Michael Jackson investigation took a stunning turn Wednesday as authorities raided the offices of the doctor who was with the pop star when he died and the physician's lawyer said investigators appear to be building a manslaughter case.

Two dozen federal drug agents and a pair of Los Angeles police officers spent more than two hours in a clinic that Dr. Conrad Murray sometimes shares in a lower-income area of north Houston, taking copied files from an office hard drive and 21 documents, according to Murray's attorney, Edward Chernoff.

"The search warrant authorized law enforcement to search for and seize items, including documents, they believed constituted evidence of the offense of manslaughter," Chernoff said in a statement posted on his firm's Web site.

Authorities did not disclose what information was taken and say they still do not consider Murray a suspect.

In the four weeks since Jackson's death, rumors have proliferated about what killed him. Several members of Jackson's family have said they suspect foul play. Investigators appear to be focusing on a powerful anesthetic, propofol. The drug was found in the Beverly Hills



AP
Houston narcotics officer leaves Dr. Conrad Murray's Armstrong clinic where Los Angeles police and agents with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration were searching for documents Wednesday, July 22, 2009 in Houston.

mansion Jackson was renting, according to a person with knowledge of the investigation who is not authorized to speak publicly.

While doctors regularly moved in and out of Jackson's life—including those who prescribed him pain medication over the years—it was Murray who joined Jackson's entourage in May as the King of Pop prepared for a series of comeback concerts in London. On June 25, Murray found Jackson unconscious in a bedroom of the mansion, Chernoff has said, tried

to revive him and ultimately helped summon paramedics.

While Jackson went into cardiac arrest, it's still not known what caused his death at age 50. An autopsy was conducted but results are not expected until next week. The Jackson family had a second autopsy performed, and those results also are pending.

Police have twice interviewed Murray, including at the Los Angeles hospital where Jackson was taken and pronounced dead. The coroner's office wanted its own interview, which the lawyer

agreed to; it may happen Friday without Murray present, according to Miranda Sevcik, Chernoff's spokeswoman. Chernoff would answer questions on the doctor's behalf.

"Based on Dr. Murray's minute-by-minute and item-by-item description of Michael Jackson's last days, he should not be a target of criminal charges," Chernoff had said in a statement a day before the raid. "Dr. Murray was the last doctor standing when Michael Jackson died and it seems all the fury is directed toward him."

Murray is currently in Las Vegas. There was no sign of activity Wednesday at Murray's medical offices in Las Vegas. Doors were locked and curtains

drawn at his practice, Global Cardiovascular Associates.

Los Angeles Police spokesman Gus Villanueva insisted Wednesday that Murray still is not considered a suspect, saying, "There is no crime report to list him as a suspect."

All the more reason that it was a surprise Murray's attorney would allude to a manslaughter investigation—giving more details than what authorities have been willing to say.

Manslaughter requires proof there was a reckless action that created a risk of death or great bodily injury. If a doctor is aware of the risk, there might also be an issue of whether the patient was made aware of that risk and decided to take it.

Showing gross negligence or recklessness would be the challenge facing prosecutors, who on Wednesday said they are waiting to see whether investigators bring them a criminal case.

"We have not been presented with any evidence. We have not been asked to evaluate anything," said district attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons.

The search of Murray's office hard drive indicates authorities are looking not just for patient records but also for e-mails either between the doctor and Jackson or orders for prescription drugs, said Harland Braun, a prominent Los Angeles defense attorney who has represented doctors in cases involving administration of drugs.

In Jackson case, what constitutes manslaughter?

LOS ANGELES (AP)—If Michael Jackson's death turns into a manslaughter case, prosecutors would have to show that his doctor acted in a negligent or reckless fashion in causing the pop star's death.

The possibility of such a charge emerged Wednesday after authorities served a search warrant at the Houston offices of Dr. Conrad Murray, Jackson's personal physician. Murray's attorney, Ed Chernoff, said investigators were looking for items "they believed constituted evidence of the offense of manslaughter."

Such a charge does not require an intent to kill and experts said the focus would more likely be on whether Murray took unnecessary risks in administering a drug or drugs to Jackson.

To prove a charge of manslaughter, authorities must show there was a reckless action that created a risk of death or great bodily injury. If a doctor is aware of the risk, there might also be an issue of whether the patient knows that risk and decided to take it.

A patient's complicity in taking the risk could reduce

the doctor's culpability, said Harland Braun, a prominent Los Angeles defense attorney who has represented doctors in cases involving administering of drugs.

"Every drug has a risk," he said. "In the case of a manslaughter charge, you have to show it was a reckless risk to even administer it and that the drug was administered in a reckless manner."

The search warrants for Murray's office were obtained by the Los Angeles Police Department. LAPD detectives were joined in the search by agents from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. DEA spokeswoman Violet Szelezsky said the search was focused on records, not drugs. Chernoff said agents left with "a forensic image" of a computer hard drive and 21 documents.

Braun said the seizure of a computer indicates authorities are looking not just for patient records but also for e-mails either between the doctor and Jackson or orders for prescription drugs.

Loyola University law professor and former federal pro-

secutor Laurie Levenson said a search warrant gives authorities the opportunity to talk to employees at Murray's office. She said they may be seeking evidence of a cover-up or use of pseudonyms in providing Jackson with drugs.

Murray, a cardiologist, was hired by Jackson not long before the pop star's death on June 25. The doctor was with him in Jackson's rented mansion and tried to revive him when he was found unconscious.

Among the drugs found in Jackson's home was the powerful anesthetic propofol, according to a person with knowledge of the investigation. The person is not authorized to speak publicly and requested anonymity.

Propofol depresses breathing and the heart rate and lowers blood pressure so it's supposed to be administered by an anesthesia professional in a medical setting.

Braun said doctors are permitted to administer a drug for uses not specified on the drug label as long as they don't use it in a reckless manner. But the responsibility for the use falls on the doctor.

In Loving Memory Jose (George) Quitugua Babauta

July 01, 1949 – July 19, 2009

Was called home by our Heavenly Father at the age of 60



In his new life, George now joins his

Parents: Sabino Palacios Babauta and Susana Muna Quitugua Babauta
Reared Grand-Mother: Nieves Muna Palacios Babauta (Familian Mendok)
Brother: Jesus Quitugua Babauta
Father In-law: Pedro Songao Maratita
Brother In-law: Curtis Biadang; Juan U. Maratita; Mametto U. Maratita; Jose U. Maratita; Joaquin J. Castro

He will be missed and remember in the hearts of his

Children and Spouse: Maria Susana (Marian) M. Babauta & Simon Camacho & Children; Jose M. & Christina M. Babauta & Children; Kevin M. & Kim Babauta & Children; Peter M. & Treeny D. Babauta & Children; Lester M. Babauta & Nicole Gaza & Children.
Reared Children: Gloriette Georgena M. Babauta & George Damian M. Babauta
Brothers, Sisters & In-Laws: Maria B. Biadang; Anna B. & Danilo Mangohig; Isable Q. Babauta & Joey Castro; Sabino Jr. Babauta; Julie Babauta; Ann Margrite Babauta; Candilaria Babauta; James Babauta; Jesus Babauta; Francisco Babauta; Juan Babauta; Valeria Babauta; Ignacio Cabrera
Former Wife: Gloria Maratita
Mother In Law: Maria Ulloa Maratita
Brother & Sister-In Law: Edward U. Maratita & Rose C. Maratita; Melchor U. & Isable S. Maratita; Francisco R. & Beata M. Sablan; Elisa M. Castro; Ramon B. & Delia M. Camacho; Jesus Cabrera & Romana U. Maratita; Janet U. Maratita; Juan U. & Tracy A. Maratita; Vicente U. & Delia S. Maratita; Rosalinda Ulloa & Donald Camacho; Leonisa F. Maratita
Caregiver: Pressy & Elvie

He will also be missed by numerous god-children, uncles, aunties, cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends.

Mass is offered at San Antonio Church at 6:00 p.m. followed by Holy Rosary. On Monday, July 27, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. his remains will be escorted from Cabrera Funeral Home Service to Santa Soledad Church for viewing and last respect. Mass of Christian burial will be at 11:00 a.m. Interment Services will followed at Santuario Pax Memorial Gardens, Kagman Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank You
From the Children and Family

LA coroner seeks records from Jackson nutritionist

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Michael Jackson's former nutritionist is the latest person authorities are tapping as they piece together the star's medical history.

Los Angeles County Coroner's officials are at the Inglewood office of Cheryl Lee, serving a subpoena for records related to her treatment of Jackson, Lee's spokeswoman says.

Belinda Foster says Lee is cooperating with investigators but required a subpoena because the records were protected by law. Lee treated Jackson between January and April, when she says he began persistently asking her for the powerful anesthetic central to the death investigation.

The subpoena comes hours after Los Angeles police and federal drug agents raided the Houston office of Jackson's personal physician.



AP
In this June 29, 2009 file photo, nutritionist Cheryl Lee, who worked with Michael Jackson, is shown during an interview in Inglewood, Calif.



Whitney Houston previews her new CD

NEW YORK (AP)—Whitney Houston says her daughter's support helped fuel her as she geared up for her comeback record.

"She was with me every step of the way: 'Mom, you can do this.' When I get discouraged and I get like, 'This is tiring, this is wearing me out, I'm just not at that point,' she'd just go, 'No, mom, you can do this, get up, get up,'" Houston said of 15-year-old Bobbi Kristina in an interview on Tuesday. "She encourages me and inspires me, when I look at her and I look at her eyes and I see myself, I go, 'OK, I can do this. I can do this.'"

In this Feb. 7, 2009 file photo, singer Whitney Houston performs at the Clive Davis pre-Grammy party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

The 44-year-old superstar is releasing "I Look to You" on Sept. 1. It's her first album in years on Arista Records. On Tuesday evening, she premiered several tracks before an industry audience that included her only child, mother Cissy Houston, cousin Dionne Warwick, Alicia Keys and Diane Sawyer.

Houston is one of the world's best-selling artists of all time, but her career stalled for years and her pop princess image imploded as she battled drugs and endured a troubled (and now defunct) marriage to Bobby Brown.

The singer did not allude to those problems as the reason for her layoff in her interview. Instead, she said she was more interested in raising her daughter than making another album.

"I kind of got comfortable with being left alone, just being a mom who would take her daughter off to school, and who would pick her up from school. I liked that vibe, I liked that feeling, because I never really had the opportunity," said Houston. "I was always traveling with her all the time."

She credits her mentor, music mogul Clive Davis, who worked with her on the album, with pushing her to come back to the recording studio.

"He called me one day and he said, 'It's time.' And I said, 'Time for what?' And he says, 'Time for you to come back and sing for us again,'" she said. "It's very special and I feel humbled to be asked to do it again and want to be heard."

Davis previewed nine tracks

at the event, including one song co-written by Alicia Keys and two by R. Kelly. David Foster, Diane Warren and Akon are also on the disc as writers and collaborators.

While Houston is relishing her return to the music, she says she's not quite ready to be back in the spotlight again.

"I am not geared for it. It goes along with the territory. I'm still going to remain the very quiet, private person I've been for the last 10 years," she said. "I just want to be recognized for my music and for what it does and how it inspires people and how it makes people feel as opposed to talking about Whitney all the time kind of thing. That's all done, it's passed and I would just like to be recognized for my music."

Comic Con promises 'Avatar,' 'New Moon,' 'IM2'

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A life-sized Iron Man toy and larger-than-life Transformers—in both car and robot form—welcomed fans to the 40th annual Comic Con.

The pop-culture convention opened Wednesday at the San Diego Convention Center.

Thousands of fans swarmed the oceanfront convention center at 6 p.m., when the doors were opened to weekend-pass holders. Fans immediately lined up for freebies and raced to snap up the most in-demand toys and comic books.

"What's this the line for?" one fan asked. "We're just walking," another replied.

It was standing room only at the Comic Con preview, as fans wearing Spider Man T-shirts and G.I. Joe caps checked out the offerings from movie studios, broadcasters and publishers.

From immortal bloodsuckers and 19th century forensics pioneers to flying suits of armor and an all-new breed of live-action 3-D, the essence of this year's hottest properties at Comic Con can be found deep in the past, or far into the future.

"Twilight" proved to be the most rabid fan-feeding frenzy at last year's Comic-Con, and its sequel, "New Moon," based on the second novel in the vampire series by Stephenie Meyer, stands out among the savory offerings being presented Thursday at the San Diego Convention Center.

Other highlights include "Tron," a reboot of the '80s sci-fi classic about computer

programmers trapped in a digital world, Tim Burton's take on "Alice in Wonderland" and an early look at "Iron Man 2." James Cameron will also preview "Avatar," a futuristic adventure that promises a new level of 3-D based on technology the "Titanic" director helped develop.

The festival began as a comic-book convention in 1970 and, over four decades, has evolved into an expansive pop-culture buffet that includes video games, TV shows, major movies and A-listers from the worlds of film, television and publishing.

"It's the Las Vegas of conventions for this type of material," said Ellen Goldsmith-Vein, owner and chief executive of the Gotham Group and a veteran of 18 Comic Cons. "It's an opportunity for fans to meet artists and buy artwork and see new stuff that's coming out. Plus it's really a festival—it's a circus in terms of the people who show up there in full regalia."

Costumed fans—a Comic Con tradition—add spice to what's already an enthusiastic crowd. Visitors to San Diego's historic downtown area during Comic Con might see Darth Vader at Rite Aid or run into Iron Man at the ATM.

The convention is like "the geek's Sundance or the pop-culture Sundance," said Gregory Ellwood, co-founder and editor-in-chief of the entertainment Web site Hitfix.com and a six-time Comic Con veteran.

Megan Fox is set to attend in support of "Jennifer's Body" and "Jonah Hex"; Robert Downey Jr. will be on hand for "Iron Man 2" and "Sherlock Holmes"; Peter Jackson is coming to his first Comic Con to show off the latest film he produced, "District 9," and Cameron Diaz is set to promote her new thriller, "The Box."

Sigourney Weaver, one of the stars of "Avatar," said she's excited to make her Comic Con debut.

"I've always wanted to go," she said. "For me, with all these between 'Alien' and 'Ghostbusters' and 'Galaxy Quest' and 'Avatar' now, it's an event I've been dying to go to for a long time."

TV fans will find plenty of appetizing options, too.

Kiefer Sutherland is set to offer a glimpse into the new season of "24." The co-creators of "Lost" will share insights into the show's final season. The producers and cast of "Fringe" plan to present exclusive footage and the people behind "Glee" will share a new episode of the new Fox show that debuted after the "American Idol" finale and picks up again next month.

"This is not what the founders of the Con thought about 40 years ago when they started this," said Ellwood, adding that fan reception at Comic Con can help movies and TV shows find dedicated followings.

Admissions for this year's festival have been sold out for weeks.

Discovery Channel to re-air 'Cronkite Remembers'

NEW YORK (AP)—Discovery Channel says it's re-airing "Cronkite Remembers," an eight-part look at the 20th century through the eyes of veteran newsman Walter Cronkite.

The encore presentation hon-

ors Cronkite, who died last week at age 92. The series airs Sunday in a double marathon beginning at 11 a.m. Eastern and concluding at 3 a.m. Monday.

Last seen on Discovery in 1997, the series charts Cronkite's

life and times through recollections, interviews, home movies and clips from the CBS News library and other archives. Episodes include "The Cold War," "Television and Politics" and "Man on the Moon."

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G-Force

Fri. and Sat. 1:10 4:15 7:30 9:45
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:10 4:15 7:30

Nicolas Cage, Steve Buscemi
 Action, Animated • Rated PG

Synopsis

A group of guinea pigs trained by the government to work in espionage, armed with the latest high-tech spy equipment, soon discover that the fate of the world is in their paws. Tapped for the G-Force are guinea pigs Darwin the squad leader determined to succeed at all costs; Blaster, an outrageous weapons expert with tons of attitude and a love for all things extreme; and Juarez a sexy martial arts pro; plus the literal fly-on-the-wall reconnaissance expert, Mooch, and a star-nosed mole, Speckles, the computer and information specialist.



Orphan

Fri. and Sat. 1:25 4:20 7:05 9:50
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:25 4:20 7:05

Peter Sarsgaard, Isabelle Fuhrman
 Thriller, Horror • Rated R

Synopsis

The tragic loss of their unborn child has devastated Kate and John, taking a toll on both their marriage and Kate's fragile psyche as she is plagued by nightmares and haunted by demons from her past. Struggling to regain some semblance of normalcy in their lives, the couple decides to adopt another child. At the local orphanage, both John and Kate find themselves strangely drawn to a young girl named Esther. Almost as soon as they welcome Esther into their home, however, an alarming series of events begins to unfold, leading Kate to believe that there's something wrong with Esther—this seemingly angelic little girl is not what she appears to be.



Harry Potter and The Half Blood Prince

Fri. and Sat. 1:05 4:10 7:15 10:10
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:05 4:10 7:15

Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
 Fantasy, Adventure, Sequel • Rated PG-13

Synopsis

Voldemort is tightening his grip on both the Muggle and wizarding worlds and Hogwarts is no longer the safe haven it once was. Harry suspects that dangers may even lie within the castle, but Dumbledore is more intent upon preparing him for the final battle that he knows is fast approaching. Together they work to find the key to unlock Voldemort's defenses and, to this end, Dumbledore recruits his old friend and colleague, the well-connected and unsuspecting bon vivant Professor Horace Slughorn, whom he believes holds crucial information.



Ice Age: Dawn Of The Dinosaurs

Fri. and Sat. 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:30
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:20 4:30 7:25

John Leguizamo, Queen Latifah
 Family-Oriented Adventure • Rated PG



Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen

Fri. and Sat. 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:00 4:00 7:00

Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox
 Sci-Fi Action • Rated PG-13



My Sister's Keeper

Fri. and Sat. 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:55
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:30 4:25 7:20

Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin
 Family Drama • Rated PG-13



The Proposal

Fri. and Sat. 1:15 4:05 7:10 9:40
 Sun. thru Thurs. 1:15 4:05 7:10

Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds
 Romantic Comedy • Rated PG-13

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ESPN bans *NY Post* reporters over nude video

HARTFORD, Connecticut (AP)—ESPN banned staffers from the *New York Post* from appearing on any of its programming on Wednesday after the newspaper published photos this week taken from a video showing sideline reporter Erin Andrews nude in a hotel room.

The *Post* published three images from the blurry video Tuesday.

"While we understand the *Post's* decision to cover this as a news story, their running photos obtained in such a fashion went well beyond the boundaries of common decency in the interest of sensationalism," ESPN senior vice president of communications Chris LaPlaca said in a statement Wednesday night.

Newspaper reporters are regular guests on ESPN shows.

Post spokesman Howard Rubenstein did not immediately return a call from The Associated Press.

The *Post* was one of several TV networks and newspapers that aired or published images from the video, which Andrews' attorney says was shot without her knowledge. Andrews plans to seek criminal charges and file civil lawsuits against the person who shot the video and anyone who publishes the material, attorney Marshall Grossman said.

Kelly McBride, a journalism ethics expert with the Florida-based Poynter Institute, said it was unethical for news organizations to show images from the Andrews video.

"There is some illegally obtained material, leaked docu-



Erin Andrews arrives at the ESPY Awards on Wednesday July 15, 2009, in Los Angeles.

AP

ments or video of a CIA person torturing a soldier ... that I think has great public importance," McBride said. "But this doesn't do that at all.

"I actually do believe in giving the audience what they want to certain restraints, and I think this clearly crosses that line," she said. "I don't think with a straight face you could justify this on journalistic grounds."

The blurry, five-minute video shows Andrews standing

in front of a hotel room mirror, fixing her hair in the nude. It's unknown when or where it was shot.

Andrews, 31, has covered hockey, college football, college basketball and Major League Baseball for the network since 2004, often as a sideline reporter during games.

A former dance team member at the University of Florida, she was something of an Internet sensation even before the vid-

eo's circulation. She has been referred to as "Erin Pageviews" because of the traffic that video clips and photos of her generate, and *Playboy* magazine named her "sexiest sportscaster" in both 2008 and 2009.

It was not clear when the video first appeared on the Internet. Most of the links to it had been removed by Tuesday.

Every state but Iowa now has some law on the books dealing with video voyeurism, according to the National Center for Victims of Crime.

"With people disseminating these images over the Internet, there is a potential for people to abuse the victim again and again," said Ilse Knecht, the center's deputy director for public policy. "States have begun to recognize that it's not just some guy taking a picture and looking at it in a dark room."

Many of the state laws are based on a 2004 federal statute that prohibits recording anyone's "private areas" without consent under circumstances where the victim has a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Penalties vary in each state, ranging from fines to several years in prison. Connecticut's law can result in up to five years in prison.

Knecht said several states, including New York, have laws prohibiting people from disseminating these images. Knecht said it's not clear whether that applies to the media.

"If they knew at the time that the conduct was unlawful, then it's kind of sketchy," she said.

bit parts, McElhatton said it was Gidget who got the closeups and the quips (Carlos Alazraqui was the voice).

Gidget traveled first-class, opened up the New York Stock Exchange and made an appearance at Madison Square Garden, McElhatton said.

In later years, she did other acting work, appearing in a 2002 commercial for the insurance company GEICO and in the 2003 movie "Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde."

She remained the object of affection after her retirement, going on hikes and beach visits with her trainer. She aged gracefully, and liked nothing more than to snooze in the sun.

"She was like a little old lady. She'd kind of gotten smaller," McElhatton said.

Gidget will be cremated, McElhatton said. Her owners had not decided on a final disposition of her remains. Taco Bell Corp. said in a statement Gidget would be missed by many. "Our deepest sympathies go out to her owners and fans," the company said.

Man's popularity with kids is problematic for parents

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 38-year-old man with no children. For some reason I tend to attract the attention of children wherever I go. Even though I make no attempt to speak to them, they often approach me. I know when children talk to strangers it makes their parents uncomfortable, but I don't want to be rude to the kids.



Dear Abby

I was recently eating at an outdoor restaurant when a friendly little girl walked up, sat herself down at my table, and began asking me questions. I was terse but polite. She was soon joined by several other kids, all of whom seated themselves at my table.

Their parents, who had obviously not been paying attention, shouted at them to "get away from that man!" It created an embarrassing scene with the parents telling me I had no business talking to their kids. The other diners looked at me as though I was some kind of pervert.

I don't want to be rude to children, but what can I do to prevent things like this from happening again?

CRYING "UNCLE" IN TEXAS

DEAR "UNCLE": The parents overreacted. The next time a child approaches and wants to talk, ask the child, "Did your mother/father say it was OK to talk to a stranger?" If the answer is no, then tell the child he/she must first ask a parent for permission.

DEAR ABBY: My 35-year-old daughter, "Rhonda," is intelligent and creative, but her house is a disaster. There are clothes, books, magazines, etc. piled on every surface. Dishes are stacked on her bed; socks and paper litter the floor.

How can she feel good living like this? The place is becoming a health hazard. Rhonda is caring and attractive, but she rarely dates. Could her mess be a symptom of something more serious?

Abby, I'm worried about my daughter's chances for future happiness, but I have no idea how to help her. Or should I?

WORRIED MOM IN OREGON

DEAR WORRIED MOM: If you're the kind of mother who always picked up after her children, then this is only more of the same. If your daughter's disorderliness is something new, then it might be a symptom of depression or some other emotional problem.

When you say you are concerned about Rhonda's chances for future happiness, do you mean you're worried that she's 35 and still single? Not every woman needs a man to complete her. Have a heart-to-heart talk with your daughter and explain your concerns. You won't find out what's going on in her head until you do.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been involved in an ongoing debate about how to place the pillows on our king-size bed. Should the opening of the pillowcase face the outside of the bed or the inside?

I place my pillows with the opening facing the middle of the bed so the pillow won't show, while my wife does it the other way, and the edge of the pillow can be seen through the opening. Can you please settle this?

PILLOW TALK IN ABILENE

DEAR PILLOW TALK: Hotels make up the beds with the opening of the pillowcases turned to the middle because the maids usually tuck the edge of the pillowcase inward. A specialist in the bedding department of my local department store says that in most homes, the opening of the pillowcase faces the edge of the bed. But the bottom line is—there is no right or wrong way!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Gidget the Chihuahua, the bug-eyed, big-eared star of 1990s Taco Bell commercials who was a diva on and off the screen, has died. She was 15.

Gidget suffered a massive stroke late Tuesday night at her trainer's home in Santa Clarita and had to be euthanized, said Karin McElhatton, owner of Studio Animal Services in Castaic, which owned the dog.

Although she was hard of hearing, Gidget was otherwise in good health up to the day of her death, eating well and playing with her favorite squeaky toys at the home of trainer Sue Chipperton, McElhatton said.

"She was retired. She lived like a queen, very pampered," McElhatton said.

Gidget was found at a kennel and wasn't show quality, McElhatton said; she had an under-shot jaw and huge ears.

But Gidget knew she was a star, McElhatton said.

"She was a prima donna, basically. She absolutely knew when she was on camera,"

Taco Bell ad star Gidget the Chihuahua dies at 15



This undated picture provided by Taco Bell shows part of a Taco Bell advertisement featuring a Chihuahua professing his love for tacos.

AP

McElhatton said.

In a 1997 Taco Bell television commercial, Gidget was seen as a male dog who, through the magic of special effects and a voice actor, proclaims in a richly accented voice: "Yo quiero Taco Bell"—Spanish for "I want Taco Bell."

Viewers were charmed. What

was supposed to be a single ad became a campaign that ran from 1997 to 2000.

The ads made the Taco Bell mascot wildly popular, although they provoked criticism from activists who accused them of promoting Hispanic stereotypes.

While other Chihuahuas had

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
• 3-Liner with picture	\$45
• 5-Liner with picture	\$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS


Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Various Positions - CNMI Judicial Branch

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Supreme Court is seeking highly motivated people for the positions of:

Chief Marshal (Saipan), Marshal Service Unit. Candidate must have 7+ years progressive experience in law enforcement or security. College degree strongly preferred.

Deputy Marshal (Rota and Tinian), Marshal Service Unit. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and a minimum of two years experience in law enforcement and/or one year college level education in criminal justice or other related field of study.

Marshal Intern (Saipan), Marshal Service Unit. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and one (1) year work experience.

Data Entry Clerk (Saipan), Information Technology Division. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and one (1) year work experience working with computers.

Computer Specialist (Saipan), Information Technology Division. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and one (1) year of work experience or college level course work in computer science, information systems or other related field of study.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must possess a valid CNMI driver's license and current police and traffic clearances.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: These are ungraded positions appointed and served at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Salary will be negotiable.

INTERESTED PERSONS should submit their resume and complete OPM application to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable Miguel S. Demapan, at the Guma' Hustisia/limwal Aweewe/House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan. For additional information about these positions and detailed job descriptions, see <http://www.justice.gov.mp> or call (670) 236-9716 or 236-9800. Resume and application must be received by 12:00 noon on July 31, 2009.

These projects were supported by Grant Number 2009-SB-B9-0008 awarded to the CNMI Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) by the FY09 Northern Mariana Island Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Program, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U. S. Department of Justice and the CNMI Government, and sub-granted by the CJPA Supervisory Council. The Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, coordinates activities of the following program offices and bureaus: Bureau of Justice Assistance, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Corrections Program Office, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office for Victims of Crime and Violence Against Women. Points of view or opinions contain within this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice or the CJPA Supervisory Council.




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235-NEWS

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Fujimak Heavy Duty 4 Burner Range, with oven. Mod Number: FGHRH140 Serial Nr.:T 00068044 LPG fired. CAP 3.15 Very good condition, Oven with 1 rack, Stainless Steel body. \$750.00. pls. call Malou Vuelta - 2850360/2341610

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Please call 484-0770 for more info. NMHC applicants welcome!

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Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Across from IT&E on Texas Rd., A/C, washer/dryer, 24-hr. CUC/rainwater, ceiling fans, walk-in closet, well-maintained. 1BR furn. \$375/mo, unfurn. \$300/mo. 2BR furn. \$475/mo. unfurn. \$400/mo. Call Ed at 788-6268 or 235-0409

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I am looking for a partner with a profitable investment proposal, to invest some fund. Contact me immediately at the information below provided you can guarantee the security of my investment capital, kindly furnish me with full business details and proposal for a Joint venture partnership with you. Please send e-mail to: mrwolfgang002@gmail.com Contact name: **Wolfgang Brustellin**

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MERMAID for DEEPSTAR SUBMARINE

Take a picture with tourist on submarine

Call EUGENE at 285-8008

PUBLIC NOTICE



Norma 'Normae' E. Patanao is no longer connected with **Philpan International Corp.** dba **MC Asia International Corporation**; therefore any transaction made by her on behalf of the company from the date she was terminated is null and void.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 09-031

"JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR PSS HEAD START PROGRAM"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting competitive sealed bids for **Janitorial Services for the PSS Head Start Program**. The Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950.

All bids should be placed in a sealed envelope marked "IFB 09-031" containing one (1) original with Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office no later than **July 30, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.**, at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

Questions should be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement & Supply Officer or E-mail to the following address: florian@saipan.com.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



Mount Carmel School

Post Office Box 500006, Saipan, MP 96950
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Mount Carmel School announces the following important dates:

July 30 Reporting Date for Teachers

August 3 Parent Orientation* (Mandatory)
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Cafeteria

August 4 Parent Orientation* (Mandatory)
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Cafeteria

**Parents need to attend only one orientation session.*

August 06 First Day of Classes
7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
7:30 a.m. to 1:50 p.m. (Wednesday)

Opening Day Mass: 8:00 a.m. at the Cathedral

August 12 Open House
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call 234-6184.

/s/ Margaret C. Dela Cruz
President, Mount Carmel School

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW09-RFP-029

DESIGN BUILD OF COMMONWEALTH DRIVE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Design Build of Commonwealth Drive Drainage Improvement** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further Amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **July 10, 2009** at the DPW, Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A Non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (**US\$100.00**) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center Office. **Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference at the south side of Garapan Central Park at 1:00 P.M. on July 29, 2009.** Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr.**, Director, Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **August 03, 2009**.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (resumes and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor or another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and Background of the Company- 40%;
2. Past experience of the contractor on design builds projects and successfully completions- 15%;
3. Capability and ability to perform the work and completed within the time frame- 10%; and
4. Costs-35%.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "DPW09-RFP-029". For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, August 10, 2009. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, August 10, 2009 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, August 10, 2009 and must be received no later than August 19, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A Surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's or Bid Bond. Checks must be payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (**120**) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (**US\$100.00**) per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made, therefore, negotiation shall be conducted with the highest qualified firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. The successful proposers will be subject to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **RUNWAY 7/25 REHABILITATION - PACKAGE 2, PHASE 2, FRANCISCO C. ADA SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-53/58**.

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2009**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the Airport Runway 7/25 Rehabilitation to include milling of existing runway, taxiway, blast pad and shoulder pavements, asphalt concrete overlay, grooving and marking of surfaces; and the restoration of Taxiway "A", Replacement of Runway Edge Lights and Guidance Signs, and the installation of lighted wind cones all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with **Item G-100-3.2 (Contract Time)** of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specifications. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with **Item G-100-3.4 (Liquidated Damages)** of the General Project Requirements. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70-27 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, Friday, July 17, 2009**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. All prospective bidders shall be required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this advertisement and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ EFRAN F. CAMACHO, PE
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: July 2, 2009

Contador moves closer to second win



LE GRAND-BORNAND, France (AP)—Alberto Contador used the third and final Al-

pine stage of the Tour de France to take a further step toward a second victory in cycling's showcase event.

The 26-year-old Spaniard, following another impressive run through the mountains, handed one more blow to his rivals when he tightened his grip on the yellow jersey by taking second place in Wednesday's 17th stage behind Frank Schleck of Luxembourg.

Four days before the race ends on the Champs-Elysees, Contador leads his closest challenger, Frank Schleck's younger brother Andy, by 2 minutes, 26 seconds.

Contador's Astana teammate Lance Armstrong, still aiming at a podium finish, dropped to fourth overall at the end of the 105-mile stage between Bourg-Saint-Maurice and Le Grand-Bornand. The 37-year-old Texan, who is set to announce plans for a new team for next season on Thursday, could not keep with the leading group in the grueling ascent to the Col de Romme.

Contador, only one of five men with a victory in the three Grand Tours—France, Italy and Spain—made a bold move when he tried to drop the Schlecks in the Col de la Colombiere, the last climb of the day. Contador's attack did not harm the brothers but it proved fatal to his Astana teammate Andreas Kloezen of Germany, who sits 4:44 back in fifth place.

Armstrong was quick to criticize the move on his Twitter feed.

"Getting lots of question why (Alberto Contador) attacked and dropped Kloezen. I still haven't figured it out either. Oh well," Armstrong wrote.

Tensions within the Astana team have



The pack with Alberto Contador of Spain, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, bottom right corner, and American seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong in second position, speed down Saisies pass during the 17th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 169.5 kilometers (105.3 miles) with start in Bourg-Saint-Maurice and finish in Le Grand-Bornand, Alps region, France, Wednesday July 22, 2009.

AP

been fierce since Armstrong announced his comeback last year and joined the squad managed by Johan Bruyneel, the man behind his seven victories on the Tour. The rivalry between the cancer survivor and cycling's new star Contador—who has been under contract at Astana since 2008—reached new heights during the Tour.

Although Bruyneel said the Spaniard has almost secured victory, the Belgian was also prompt to question Contador's move.

"Today I told him several times that it was not necessary to attack to win the Tour," Bruyneel said after the stage. "I said it because we still have some hard days to come. It was his choice, it didn't work."

Astana sports director Alain Gal-

lopin, the man who groomed Contador all season, was even harsher.

"He made a mistake. He made Andreas lose second place," the Frenchman told French radio Europe 1 on Wednesday evening.

While most teams would find no problem having Contador among their ranks, Armstrong's presence at Astana seems to weaken the Spaniard's position.

"We did not tell him to attack, he had won the Tour," said Gallopin. "He is a young rider, he still has to learn."

Armstrong and Bruyneel are expected to launch their new team together next year, while Contador has been linked to a move to Spanish outfit Caisse d'Epargne. Both riders are forced to live together for the next four

days and are likely to face each other in next year's Tour.

"For now, we want to win the Tour de France, we are on the right path, then we will see," said Bruyneel.

As for this year, it seems Contador has bested his American teammate.

On the eve of Thursday's 25.2-mile time trial in Annecy, Contador sits on a comfortable cushion. Andy Schleck is 2 minutes, 26 seconds behind with elder brother Frank in third, 3:25 off the pace.

Bruyneel was confident Contador would maintain his overall lead.

"Tomorrow, the time trial will be good for Alberto because he is better than the Schlecks. Then, the Ventoux (on Saturday) and this is it. It looks good as far as winning the Tour is con-

cerned. He is in great shape, he has never been in danger," he said.

Armstrong, fourth overall and 3:55 back, said a second place finish was still within his reach.

"Yes, it's still my goal, I think it's possible," he said. "I just need to work hard on the time-trial tomorrow ... We still have two big days."

After Thursday's mainly flat time trial, Tour hopefuls will tackle the daunting and feared Mont Ventoux—a nearly 7,000-foot ascent at an average gradient of 7.6 percent—during Saturday's penultimate stage.

Armstrong never won at the top of the Ventoux, a huge moonscape of rock in Provence with no vegetation, and he has previously said it was one of his biggest regrets.

Deputy: No plans to investigate Roethlisberger



RENO, Nev. (AP)—Law enforcement officials in Nevada have no intention of opening a criminal investigation into allegations Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger raped a woman at a Lake Tahoe hotel-casino a year ago, the sheriff's department said Wednesday.

Douglas County Sheriff's Deputy Teresa Duffy said the accuser would have to file a criminal complaint to trigger an investigation into the incident the woman says occurred during a celebrity golf tournament last July while she was working as an executive VIP casino host at Harrah's Lake Tahoe.

"The victim is the only one who can do that," Duffy told The Associated Press. "Unless there was a third party that actually witnessed the incident, which according to the civil case, was not the case here."

The 31-year-old Nevada woman has filed a lawsuit saying the Super Bowl winning quarterback raped her in a hotel penthouse across the street from the golf course, a claim his lawyer vehemently denies.

She also accuses Harrah's officials, including the casino's chief of security, of orchestrating a cover-up of the incident she says she reported to him the

next day. The lawsuit alleges Harrah's officials worked to silence her and undermine her credibility rather than investigate her claims.

The woman, a native of Canada who had worked at Harrah's Lake Tahoe hotel-casino since 2003, never went to outside authorities with her story, and it's unclear why she decided to file the lawsuit seeking hundreds of thousands of dollars a year after the alleged incident.

Her lawsuit says she didn't file a criminal complaint because she feared Harrah's would side with Roethlisberger—a friend of the hotel-casino's regional president John Koster—and she would be fired.

She said the security chief, Guy Hyder, told her she was "over reacting," that "most girls would feel lucky to get to have sex with someone like Ben Roethlisberger" and that "Koster would love you even more if he knew about this."

The lawsuit said she was treated between last August and December at five different hospitals for depression and anxiety stemming from the alleged assault, and returned to work each time after treatment.

She sought legal counsel in March after Harrah's officials told her Roethlisberger was invited to play in the

2009 celebrity golf tournament and ordered her to take a paid two-week leave during the event, the lawsuit said, "to accommodate her assailant." The tournament took place last week.

Cal Dunlap, the Reno lawyer who filed her lawsuit in Washoe County District Court on Friday, said neither he nor the woman will comment.

Dunlap is the former county district attorney who also represents Nevada first lady Dawn Gibbons in divorce proceedings against Republican Gov. Jim Gibbons. Dunlap refused to discuss the woman's whereabouts.

On Wednesday, she was not at the property where she has been living in rural Douglas County. The old dairy farm about 20 miles from Lake Tahoe has a main farm house and several outbuildings, some of which appear to be rented out as apartments.

Roethlisberger lawyer David Cornwell said in a statement earlier this week that the quarterback has "never sexually assaulted anyone." He said timing of the lawsuit and absence of a criminal complaint proves his innocence.

Harrah's officials said they do not comment on pending legal matters.

The lawsuit seeks a minimum of \$440,000 in damages from the quarterback, at least \$50,000 in damages from

eight Harrah's officials and an unspecified amount of punitive damages "sufficient to deter" Roethlisberger and the others "from engaging in such conduct in the future."

Meanwhile, Roethlisberger intends to stick to his plans to participate in Shaquille O'Neal's new reality TV series. He canceled a news conference set for Thursday to promote the show, but ABC spokesman Edwin

Escobar said in an e-mail Wednesday that production will proceed as scheduled Friday.

In the show "Shaq Vs." debuting Aug. 18, Roethlisberger is one of the athletes the NBA star will challenge in their respective sports.

Roethlisberger has twice led the Steelers to Super Bowl victories in his five-year career and is one of the biggest names in sports.

NFLPA: Vick met with union leader on Tuesday

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Michael Vick met with NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith earlier this week, after the former Atlanta Falcons quarterback finished serving 23 months in federal custody for a dogfighting conviction.

George Atallah, assistant executive director for external affairs of the player's union, says Vick and Smith met one-on-one on Tuesday. Atallah gave no additional details.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell has suspended Vick indefinitely, and said Tuesday that he'll decide whether to reinstate Vick "in the near future." Goodell did not elaborate, but has said repeatedly in recent months that he would wait for Vick to finish serving his sentence before meeting with the 29-year-old quarterback.

Vick was freed from home confine-

ment Monday, but still must serve three years' probation for his federal conviction and a related state conviction.

NFL training camps open for veterans next week.

The union's position has been that it will support Vick on a personal level until Goodell decides how to proceed, but Atallah said Smith will likely raise the issue with Goodell.

"They talk frequently on a number of issues and I'm sure this is going to be one of them at some point," Atallah told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Wednesday.

Vick's meeting with Goodell is critical to his chance at winning reinstatement. The commissioner has said he wants to see remorse and evidence that Vick has changed. Goodell also has said that Vick must not only convince him, but the public that he is reformed.

Manny gets pinch-hit grand slam for Dodgers



LOS ANGELES

(AP)—Manny Ramirez hit a tie-breaking, pinch-hit grand slam Wednesday to send Los Angeles to a 6-2 victory over Cincinnati, their 12th consecutive at home against the Reds.

Ramirez was kept out of the starting lineup for precautionary reasons with a sore left hand after being hit by a pitch a night earlier.

He sent the first pitch from reliever Nick Masset into the “Mannywood” section of lower left field seats for his 21st career grand slam, giving Los Angeles a 6-2 lead in the sixth inning and putting the crowd into a frenzy.

Braves 4, Giants 2

At Atlanta, Jair Jurrjens gave up three hits in 7 2-3 innings and Yunel Escobar hit a three-run homer as surging Atlanta downed San Francisco.

Escobar's third-inning homer gave the Braves a 4-0 lead over Tim Lincecum, who lost for the first time in five weeks.

Astros 4, Cardinals 3

At Houston, Miguel Tejada singled in the winning run with two outs in the ninth inning to help Houston complete a three-game sweep of St. Louis.

Tailing 3-2 entering the ninth, Ivan Rodriguez led off with a single against Cardinals closer Ryan Franklin and scored when Chris Coste, substituting for the injured Lance Berkman, doubled to center.

Cubs 10, Phillies 5

At Philadelphia, Aramis Ramirez and Jeff Baker each had a two-run double as Chicago beat Philadelphia to snap the Phillies' 10-game winning streak.

Carlos Zambrano (7-4) won his third straight start for the Cubs to end the Phillies' longest winning streak in 18 years.

Marlins 5, Padres 0

At San Diego, Ricky Nolasco struck out 10 and combined with three relievers on a three-hitter, leading Florida to a victory that completed a three-game sweep.

Chris Coghlan hit a two-run homer off Heath Bell in the ninth and Jeremy Hermida connected leading off the second against Josh Geer. It was the major league-leading 24th home run allowed by Geer (1-6), who has allowed a homer in eight straight starts.

Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Ramirez reacts after hitting a grand slam against the Cincinnati Reds during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Los Angeles, Wednesday, July 22, 2009.

AP



Rockies 4, Diamondbacks 3

At Denver, Todd Helton hit a go-ahead homer off Scott Schoeneweis (1-2) in the eighth inning and drove in a run with his 500th career double for Colorado.

Carlos Gonzalez, who's been mired in a slump that's cost him playing time, had two doubles and scored twice as the Rockies won two of three against Arizona.

Pirates 8, Brewers 7

At Pittsburgh, Brandon Moss hit Pittsburgh's season-high fifth homer of the game leading off the ninth inning as it won a series against Milwaukee for the first time in nearly two years.

The Pirates had lost 17 games in a row to Milwaukee—the longest losing streak by one major league team against another in 39 years—and their previous seven series against the Brewers before taking two of the three.

Rangers 3, Red Sox 1

At Arlington, Texas, Dustin Nipert allowed one run while pitching

into the sixth inning of a spot start for flu-ridden Vicente Padilla as the Texas Rangers completed a three-game sweep of the slumping Boston Red Sox.

David Murphy shook off flu-like symptoms with two hits for the Rangers, who swept a series against Boston for the first time since 2004.

Yankees 6, Orioles 4

At New York, A.J. Burnett won his fourth straight decision and Nick Swisher had a big day with his bat and glove to lead New York over Baltimore for its sixth consecutive victory.

Jorge Posada homered and drove in two runs and Alex Rodriguez had an RBI single as the American League East division leaders scored four times in the first inning and sent rookie Jason Berken (1-8) to his eighth loss in a row.

White Sox 4, Rays 3

At Chicago, Alexei Ramirez hit a two-run triple and Jermaine Dye added a go-ahead RBI single in Chicago's unusual

seventh inning.

Scott Podsednik homered for the White Sox, who pulled within one game of Detroit in the AL Central.

Athletics 16, Twins 1

At Oakland, California, Rajai Davis drove in four runs, Scott Hairston hit a three-run homer and Oakland jumped all over Minnesota starter Glen Perkins in its highest scoring game in

nearly two years.

Matt Holliday went 3-for-3 with three runs scored and Orlando Cabrera reached base safely three times in the first two innings, scoring twice and knocking in two runs as the A's took a 12-1 lead after two innings. Oakland finished with 18 hits.

Mariners 2, Tigers 1

At Detroit, Russell Branyan hit a two-out, two-run homer in the eighth inning to give Felix Hernandez and Seattle the victory.

Branyan drove a 1-0 pitch from Bobby Seay (1-2) for his 24th homer and the last of Seattle's two hits in the game.

Hernandez (11-3) struck out eight in seven innings, allowing one run and six hits.

Blue Jays 10, Indians 6

At Toronto, Marco Scutaro hit two of Toronto's season-high five home runs and matched his career-high with four RBIs. Scutaro had a solo homer in the fifth and a three-run shot in the sixth, the first multihomer game of his career.

Aaron Hill, Alex Rios and Vernon Wells all hit solo home runs for Toronto.

Angels 9, Royals 6

At Kansas City, Missouri, Maicer Izturis had four RBIs as Los Angeles scored five runs in the eighth against Kansas City's beleaguered bullpen to complete a three-game sweep.

Izturis hit a two-run homer off starter Brian Bannister and Howie Kendrick added a solo shot off him in the seventh. The AL West-leading Angels (55-38) had 15 hits—40 in the three-game series—to move a season-high 17 games over .500.

Bryant 'optimistic' Odom will re-sign with Lakers



SINGAPORE (AP)—Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant is optimistic the NBA champions will re-sign key free agent Lamar Odom.

"I'm optimistic that he'll be back," Bryant said Wednesday at a news conference in Singapore as part of a six-country Asian tour. "He makes us a much, much stronger team."

Negotiations broke down last week and the Lakers retracted a contract offer to Odom. The Miami Heat are also wooing the 6-foot-10 forward.

Odom played a key role off the bench in the Lakers' championship run, averaging 12.3 points and 9.1 rebounds during the playoffs.

Bryant said forward Ron Artest, who signed as a free agent with the Lakers earlier this month, will help bolster the team's chances to repeat as champions.

"I think Ron's going to be a great addition to us," Bryant said. "It's about how well we play together. No matter how much talent you have, it's about how you put those pieces of the puzzle together."

Bryant downplayed speculation that Lakers coach Phil Jackson may take some games off next season because of health problems.

"Who said he's coaching less?"

Bryant said. "Phil likes messing with you guys. He'll be there all the time, unless he has a doctor's appointment to get to."

Bryant also said he was more likely to agree to play for Team USA at the World Championships in 2010 and the 2012 London Olympics now that Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski has committed to lead the team.

Bryant and Krzyzewski won the gold medal at the Beijing Olympics last year.

"I'm very excited to see that he signed on," Bryant said. "It influences all the guys just because we've been through that experience before and it becomes like a family."

"It definitely influences me."

Bryant, an 11-time All-Star, said a possible showdown against LeBron James, former Lakers teammate Shaquille O'Neal and the Cleveland Cavaliers in next season's finals would be "crazy."

"Just the hoopla that surrounds it and all the stories that would come out of it," Bryant said. "If that match up is to happen, we have to take it one day at a time, we can't get caught up in it being a given that we're going to be in the finals."

"We have to take care of our business, but that being said, it would be a heck of a show."

Pirates deal slumping Adam LaRoche to Red Sox

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The Red Sox are hoping this latest trade for Pittsburgh's leading power hitter turns out as well as last season's.

The Red Sox acquired slumping first baseman Adam LaRoche on Wednesday for two midlevel prospects, less than a year after they picked up All-Star outfielder Jason Bay from the Pirates.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity that a team like that wants me," said LaRoche, who is hitting .109 since July 4.

The Pirates, who have traded five starting position players since last July, will receive Double-A shortstop Argenis Diaz and Class-A right-hander Hunter Strickland, an 18th-round draft pick two years ago.

The deal possibly clears the way for Pittsburgh to deal shortstop Jack

Wilson before the July 31 deadline for trading without waivers, and, maybe, NL All-Star second baseman Freddy Sanchez.

The Red Sox lost their fourth consecutive game Tuesday night to fall out of first place in the AL East, a game behind the New York Yankees. Boston was pursuing Toronto starter Roy Halladay, but a bat turned into the bigger priority for a team that is hitting .236 since June 17 and has scored 12 runs in five games since the All-Star break.

"We've been in the market for a player who can do some damage against right-handed pitching and help our depth at the corner infield," Red Sox GM Theo Epstein said in a conference call. "This was a chance to get

at a very reasonable acquisition cost a player that ... leaves us in condition to look for more impact before the trading deadline."

The trade was first reported by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on its Web site.

LaRoche, eligible for free agency after this season, is hitting .247 with 12 homers, 40 RBIs and 81 strikeouts in 87 games. He is 5 for 46 the last 2 1/2 weeks—0-for-22 at one point—with one RBI and 16 strikeouts.

"Not real good, not real good," LaRoche said of his time in Pittsburgh. "Looking back, I'm a little disappointed because I know what I'm capable of doing and what I should be doing, but I wasn't able to put it together over a six-month season. I was too streaky."

UBA to hold 3-on-3 caging next month

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Unified Basketball Association, Inc. will be holding a 3-on-3 caging dubbed "King of Da Court Basketball Tournament" next month.

The two-day tournament will be held on Aug. 21 and 22 at the Garapan Basketball Court with the final day coinciding with the "Car Show Day."

The UBA 3-on-3 caging is open to three divisions, namely

the 15-and-under, 20-and-under and 21-and-above age groups.

Each team is allowed to have a maximum of five players. Entrance fee per player is \$15 if payment is made on or before Aug. 15. Registration fee after Aug. 15 is \$20 per player.

Elimination games will be played for 22 minutes or the first team to score 16 points wins the game. Matches in the semifinals and finals of each division will be played in 15-minute halves.

Cash prizes and other perks await the champion teams with the winner in the 21-and-

above receiving \$300, \$200 for 20-and-under, and \$100 for 15-and-under.

Entrance fee and rosters are due on Aug. 20.

Interested teams are advised to pick up copies of game rules and registration and waiver forms starting next week at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium and Power 99 office.

For more information, contact UBA president James Lee at 989-UBA1 (8221) or via email at unifiedbasketballassociation@gmail.com.



UBA. Inc. is the newest basketball group in the CNMI formed early this year.

It hosted its first tournament in May via the 2009 UBA Summer Youth Basketball League, which had competitions in three age groups, namely 15-and-under, 17-and-under, and 20-and-under.

The Sonics ruled the 15-and-under division, while Kagman Ayuyus reigned in the 17-and-under, and Rollers topped the 20-and-under.

A Lil' Saints player pulls up for a shot against two Sonics defenders during UBA's first tournament of the year last month at the Garapan Basketball Court. UBA will be hosting its second tournament this year via a 3-on-3 caging.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE					
East Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	57	37	.606	—	
Boston	55	39	.585	2	
Tampa Bay	52	43	.547	5 1/2	
Toronto	47	48	.495	10 1/2	
Baltimore	41	53	.436	16	
Central Division					
Detroit	49	43	.533	—	
Chicago	49	45	.521	1	
Minnesota	48	47	.505	2 1/2	
Kansas City	37	57	.394	13	
Cleveland	37	58	.389	13 1/2	
West Division					
Los Angeles	55	38	.591	—	
Texas	52	41	.559	3	
Seattle	50	44	.532	5 1/2	
Oakland	40	53	.430	15	

NATIONAL LEAGUE					
East Division					
Philadelphia	53	39	.576	—	
Atlanta	49	46	.516	5 1/2	
Florida	49	47	.510	6	
New York	44	50	.468	10	
Washington	28	66	.298	26	
Central Division					
St. Louis	51	46	.526	—	
Chicago	48	45	.516	1	
Houston	49	46	.516	1	
Milwaukee	48	47	.505	2	
Cincinnati	44	50	.468	5 1/2	
Pittsburgh	42	52	.447	7 1/2	
West Division					
Los Angeles	61	34	.642	—	
Colorado	52	43	.547	9	
San Francisco	50	44	.532	10 1/2	
Arizona	40	55	.421	21	
San Diego	37	58	.389	24	

Yesterday's Games
Pittsburgh 8, Milwaukee 7
Chicago Cubs 10, Philadelphia 5
Colorado 4, Arizona 3
Florida 5, San Diego 0
Washington 3, N.Y. Mets 1
Atlanta 4, San Francisco 2
Houston 4, St. Louis 3
L.A. Dodgers 6, Cincinnati 2
N.Y. Yankees 6, Baltimore 4
Oakland 16, Minnesota 1
Seattle 2, Detroit 1
Toronto 10, Cleveland 6
Texas 3, Boston 1
L.A. Angels 9, Kansas City 6
Chicago White Sox 4, Tampa Bay 3

By The Associated Press

LOCAL SCORES

UFO MASTERS STANDINGS		
Bayani	4	1
Boholanos	3	1
NMBA	2	2
Cabalen	2	3
MAFEA	2	3
MFICPA	1	3
MDX	2	4

BELAU MASTERS STANDINGS		
Dolphins	10	2
Peleliu	10	2
Salty Boys	9	3
Lancheros	8	4
Choll Aces	5	7
Rubak	4	8
Kagman Jacks	2	10

BENNETT

From Page 40

in the finals and 11.33 seconds in the qualifying heat.

Bennett's best time and the current CNMI National Record in the women's 100m race stands at 12.99 seconds. The 18-year-old set the new CNMI mark during the 2008 Oceania

Area Championships on Saipan in June, making her Micronesia's Fastest Woman.

Kenty is setting a modest goal in his World Championships debut.

"Though it will be great to make a CNMI mark, my concentration right now is to have personal best times," said Kenty, who holds a personal best time of 1:08 in the 400m

hurdles and 56 seconds in the 400m race.

Bennett and Kenty will leave Saipan early, as they are also scheduled to compete in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009, which will run from Aug. 4 to 8 in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

The two runners will leave with 10 other CNMI athletes and Rangamar for Australia

on Aug. 1. The CNMI delegation will leave the Land Down Under on Aug. 9, but Bennett and Kenty will stay on Guam overnight on Aug. 10 to wait for their flight to Germany.

"We are expecting significant drops on their times, as they have been training hard the past several months," Rangamar said.

In Berlin, Kenty will have

his baptism of fire in the World Championships early, as he will compete in the qualifying heat in the 400m run on the first day of the tournament on Aug. 15. In the afternoon of the same day, Kenty will join the 400m hurdles qualifier.

The women's 100m qualifying heat is set for Aug. 16 in the morning session of the meet.

VILLAFRIA

From Page 40

ing exhaustion to several older participants. This year, weather forecast for four days for Mt. Fuji is pretty cold. When Villafria went up the hill, the temperature read at 24.4 degree Celsius (76 degree Fahrenheit). Yesterday's was 21.4 degree Celsius (71 degree Fahrenheit) and on Friday and Saturday, temperature will be at 24.1 Celsius (75 degree Fahrenheit) in

the morning and only few Celsius up in the afternoon

"Last year, I was able to go up five times before the race because it's too hot all week long so I don't have to worry about getting cold. But this year was very difficult," Villafria said.

The Filipino runner, who will be among the 6,000 participants in the Saturday race, tried going up to Mt. Fuji last Sunday, but after eight hours, he decided to return to the foot of the mountain because of the bad weather.

"Then I tried again last Tuesday, I trekked for about 10 hours, but I was a bit scared every time it started to rain and the wind blew so hard. It felt like there was an earthquake every time the wind blows so fast," Villafria said.

The Coco Restaurant employee said he had to wear multiple clothes to fight the cold. He also brought three pairs of shoes so he would not have to buy a pair just like last year when he lost one during a practice climb.

"Even with my two gloves on

each hand, I still felt the cold. There's poor visibility. I just hope the weather will be better during the race," he added.

Villafria said race organizers had already advised participants that if the bad weather still prevails on race day, no runner would be allowed to go to top of the fabled mountain.

"Organizers said they may cancel the race to the top and just settle for the fifth station," Villafria said.

The Mt. Fuji Marathon is

composed of two legs, a 15-kilometer race to the fifth station of the mountain and a 21-km race all the way to the top.

Last year, Villafria completed the 36-kilometer trek up and down in four hours and 20 minutes. He made the 2:20:00 cut off time for the 15-km first stage of the race, after timing in at 2:09:00 and then clocked in at 2:11:00 up to the summit.

This year, Villafria is hoping to break the four-hour barrier if weather permits.

DEPLETED

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to a 2-3 mark.

The Jerry Lopez-coached MAFEA seemed to get the better end of the depleted Boholanos crew only in the first five minutes of the opening quarter behind Alex Ocampo's buckets.

However, Bicara began taking over Boholanos' offense and finished with 13 points in the first period to enable his team to grab the driver's seat, 25-21.

The lead increased to eight at halftime, 58-50, as Bicara continued to hit his target, while De La Torre and Abuy also found their

rhythm in the second period. Bicara made 11 more points in the second and De La Torre tallied 10 after only nailing three in the first canto. Abuy, who made a triple in the first, added two more in the second period.

With both teams eager to end the game quickly, they rested only for a few minutes at halftime.

Just when MAFEA thought the short breather will work for them and fatigue will finally catch up with the Boholanos, the latter still showed they had enough juice left to pull away.

Abuy's back-to-back triples sparked Boholanos' third-quarter breakaway and the crippled team led by as much as 18,

78-60, before MAFEA moved within six in the closing minutes of the third canto.

Abuy scored eight points in the third, while De La Torre nailed 10 more in a no-relief job. Boholanos gained their biggest lead in the game in the third canto despite not calling a single timeout in that period. Going into the payoff canto, Boholanos kept the double-digit margin, 82-72, on De La Torre and Abuy's layups.

In the fourth period, MAFEA hoped that this time Boholanos would fold up after playing 30 minutes of basketball. However, De La Torre and company had other plans and that did not include giving

up the lead and the win.

De La Torre had another 10-point output in the fourth period to keep Boholanos afloat, while MAFEA players were still clueless in the payoff canto on what hit them in what could have been an easy game for the Bank of Saipan-sponsored team.

De La Torre finished with his season-high 33 points to top score for Boholanos and had a double-double, as he also collared 10 boards. Bicara and Abuy chipped in 27 and 25 markers, respectively, while Rodriguez contributed 11.

Pineda was the lone Boholanos player who failed to score in double digits, but he had

done a good job orchestrating the team's offense despite their very limited option. Pineda also posted six assists, five steals, and nine rebounds.

In the first game, MIFICPA broke into the win column after three losses, as it was awarded a victory via forfeiture over Cabalen.

Boholanos 108 – De La Torre 33, Abuy 27, Bicara 25, Rodriguez 11, Pineda 9.

MAFEA 90 – Ocampo 36, Espinosa 13, Delfin 12, Villegas 9, Darag 6, Garcia 4, Yalung 4, Quemado 3.

Scoring by quarters: 25-21, 58-50, 108-90.

HELLO

From Page 40

players bunt.

College football changes every year. 2009 is unique thanks to three returning QB's: Tim Tebow, Sam Bradford, and Colt McCoy, a triumvirate of Heisman-worthies.

The championship game very

well could be the SEC champ vs. Texas/Oklahoma winner.

Gators return first 36 defensive players from last year's national championship team.

One thing for certain will occur this season in college football: there will be major upsets.

Two interesting NFL stories have popped open before training camps open: 1) Mike Shanahan, the fired Bronco

coach, will get \$7 million if he doesn't say anything about the team during the season and 2) Mike Vick, reformed dog-fighter, is now available to play pending football czar Roger Goodell's approval.

If you know anyone else who earns seven million for not talking about something for six months, I'd like to know who. It's the kind of deal I'd be inter-

ested in making. I'm figuring that this Shanahan shenanigan is a first in the wacky world of sports. I sure wouldn't mind being second.

As for Vick, dog fighting has dropped 50 percent nationally since Vick's bust. So in his own inadvertent, unintentional way, Vick has helped reduce a repugnant and cruel pseudo-sport. That's a good thing, right! Now

if we can only get rid of the remaining 50 percent.

Personally, I hope Goodell reinstates Vick for this season. He's enjoyable to watch, a gifted runner perfect for television, someone who can break the doldrums.

The best thing about July is that September is not that far away. I can't wait for it to rain footballs.

Demapan goes undefeated en route to 8-ball win

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



Bradley Demapan went unscathed en route to winning the championship of the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament last Saturday.

It was another full 16-player field at the Garapan sports bar and watering hole and Demapan shone the brightest, beating experienced and up-and-coming challengers left and right to win his second 8-ball weekly competition.

Demapan figured in the finals duel against Luis Fajardo with the former having twice-to-beat advantage after sweeping his first four games.

The eventual champion actually had a red-hot start as Demapan pocketed his first six balls against Fajardo's five. He, however, committed a foul on his last ball by scratching on an intended safety shot.

Fajardo returned to the table and sank his last two balls, but nerves got the better of the affable cue artist as he missed a crucial game-winning shot on the 8-ball.

Demapan made good on his second chance as he holed his last ball and the 8-ball to secure the win and



Bradley Demapan is flanked by runners-up Luis Fajardo, right, and Senen Pangilinan after winning the championship of the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament last Saturday.

the championship.

It was a fitting finale to a night punctuated by Demapan's dominance.

He started the competition on the right foot after beating Roman Rodriguez to

join eight others to the second round.

Other opening round winners were Zheng Jian Qing (over Erwin Gomez), Dean Borja (over Robert Sanciangco), Roger Espiritu (over

Juancho Mendoza), Fajardo (over Norbert Camacho), Yang Kang (over R.J. Mascarinas), Senen Pangilinan (over Renato Blanco), and Victor S. Hocog (over Mark Butac).

Second round action then saw Demapan upset Espiritu, Dean take out Zheng, Fajardo get the better of Kang, and Pangilinan outwork Hocog.

Demapan barged into the semis and a chance to get twice-to-beat advantage when he defeated Borja, while Pangilinan followed suit with the win over Fajardo.

The Demapan-Pangilinan semis battle ended with a victory for Demapan and Fajardo then prevailed over a series of elimination round matches before avenging his quarterfinal loss to Pangilinan. His luck, however, ran out in his duel with Demapan.

The championship was worth \$100 for Demapan, while Fajardo and Pangilinan wound up with the consolation cash prizes of \$40 and \$20, respectively.

The Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament is held every Saturday and adopts a double-elimination format with a maximum of 16 players.

The entrance fee is \$10 and the tournament uses the rules of the Billiards Congress of America. Practice is free between 7pm to 8pm on game day.

For more information on the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament, call manager Zheng Jian Qing at 287-7676.

Weigh-in for Trench Warz X set

By **MARK RABAGO**
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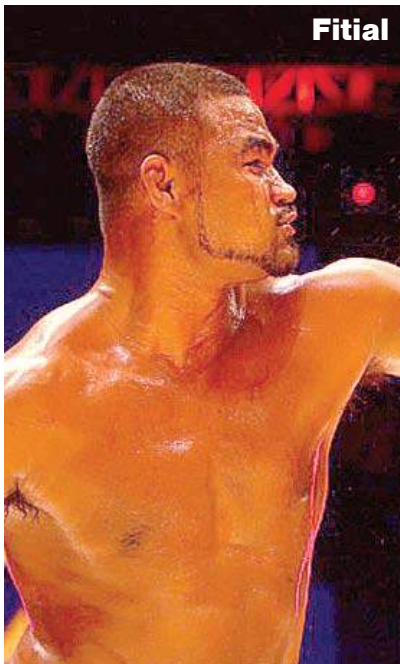
Trench Warz X: Collision is exactly a week away and organizers will hold the customary fighters weigh-in on July 30 at Saipan Grand Hotels' Club V.

Trench Tech president and promoter extraordinaire Cuki Alvarez said all participating fighters must be present for the weigh-in as it is one of the preconditions for them to fight in Trench Warz X.

"All participants must make the agreed weight by that day. All the competitors from Guam will be arriving on that day as well and it will be a great opportunity for the fans to meet and greet the fighters at the weigh-ins. Fans are also welcome to come," he said.

The weigh-in will be held from 5pm to 7pm at the Susupe landmark's party place.

Trench Warz X: Collision will feature some of the big names in mixed



Fitial

martial arts in the Marianas. The main event will be between Saipan's Kevin "The Big Hit" Fitial of Marianas Elite and Guam's Manny "The Enforcer" Chong of THUGCOP.

The other scheduled fights are the following:



Chong

■ XXXTREME's "Kill" Bill Saures vs. Da Crew 671's Mike "Ogre" Davis in the big brawl;

■ Team Lockdown's Eric "The Terror" Tedtaotao vs. Marianas Elite's Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas in the 240-lb. super heavyweight division

semi main event;

■ Trench Tech's Chris "No Luv" Laayug vs. Team Countershot's Jon "The Heat" Delos Reyes in the 145-lb. division;

■ Spike 22/Ground Fu's Tony "Rush" Reyes vs. Tanapag Beach Badd Boiz/Team Zogai's Ryan Gardee in the 140-lb. division;

■ Spike 22/Ground Fu's Jun "Shockeraba" San Nicolas vs. Marianas Elite's Martin Ayuyu in the 130-lb. division;

■ Trench Tech's Slade "The Rage" Adelbai vs. Team Psycho MMA's Toby "Big Tobz" Mesa in the 190-lb. division;

■ Team Subdue's "Infamous" Ray Apiag vs. Predator Combat Team's Nate "The Terrible" Flores in the 155-lb. division; and

■ Team Subdue's Gilbert "Guamaniac" Meno vs. Team Zogai's Shane "Insane" Camacho in the 180-lb. division.

Sonny Chargualaf of Team Countershot, meanwhile, will duke it out against Maitai "The Charger" Charley of Marianas Elite in the evening's special kickboxing bout.

Tickets for Trench Warz X: Collision will go on sale soon. General admission costs \$25 and VIP is \$35. Alvarez said doors will open at 7pm with the fights starting at 8pm.

Peleliu ties best record in Belau league

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



Peleliu ended the regular season of the 2009 Belau Masters Slow-pitch Softball League on a winning note, drubbing

Choll Aces, 23-17, last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

The win improved Peleliu's record to 10-2, tying the IT&E Dolphins' best mark in the double-round regular season. However, Peleliu lost in the battle for pennant to the Dolphins in the tie-break with the latter scoring more runs than the former in their two meetings.

Peleliu was still behind, 14-17, after

four and a half innings when it shut out Choll Aces in the last two innings to pull off a come-from-behind win. Peleliu grabbed the upper hand after five complete innings on a three-run bottom of the fifth and saved the best for last, adding nine more at the bottom of the sixth.

Second baseman Charley Kenty went perfect at the plate for Peleliu, going 5-for-5 and scoring two RBIs and a double. Shortstop Poland Yamada was 4-for-5, tallied four runs, and had four RBIs.

Lancheros 16, Kagman Jacks 9

In the second game, Lancheros used a seven-run bottom of the fourth as cush-

ion to fashion out a 16-9 win over Kagman Jacks.

Lancheros led by only two runs, 6-4, after three complete innings, when Donald Crisostimo and Manny Tenorio blasted a two-run double each in the fourth inning to widen the gap and lead their team to their eighth win.

Kagman Jacks absorbed its 10th in 12 games and will be seeded last in the playoffs and will be paired against Peleliu.

The playoff games will be played this Sunday with Peleliu drawing a bye in the first round. Lancheros, which will be seeded fourth, will play the fifth-ranked Choll Aces. The other first round pairing are the Salty Boys against Rubak.

Salty Boys 9, Rubak 7

Pitcher John Andres hit a two-run single at the top of the seventh inning to lift the Salty Boys to a 9-7 win over Rubak.

The victory landed the Salty Boys the third spot in the team standings, as they finished the regular season with a 9-3 slate.

The Salty Boys were ahead by only two 7-5, after six complete innings when Andres' double drove Percy Omechelag and Highness Asanuma home, upping the lead to four, 9-7, going into the bottom of the last inning.

Rubak moved within two, 7-9, on Wally Emul's one-run homer, but they failed to steal the win, as their next two batters flied out and Andres struck out Felix Romoket for the third out.

Bostre tops July tourney

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSISTANT EDITOR



Nono Bostre topped the Fil-Taga Golfers Association July Ace of the Month Tournament held

last Sunday, July 19, at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talafofo.

The Department of Public Works highway manager came away with a gross score of 98, which after his 32 handicap was deducted gave him the

score to beat—a net 66.

Jhun Calma finished three strokes behind with his net 69, built around a gross score of 85 and a handicap of 16.

Freddie Cataluna settled for third place after he shot an 80 gross, which after his 10 handicap was calculated, gave him a net of 70.

A total of 11 players took part in the July tourney. The rest of the golfers, with their net scores in parenthesis, are as follows: John Matsumoto (72), Rene Batallones (73), Danny Ganacias (74), Fr. Manny Corcuera (75), Toto Siruelo (75), Gil Faller (76), Mike Cruz (79), and a guest player who shot an 86.

Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights.

A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the \$35 to \$40 price range for most tournaments.

Its 2008-2009 set of officers are led by president Mike Cruz, vice president Jhun Calma, secretary Manny Po, treasurer Arnaldo Guban, and board of directors Corcuera, Jhun Dela Cruz, Ted Malaran, Faller, Rey Ferraz, Greg De Torres, Batallones, Nestor Siruelo, and George Sablan.



Contador moves closer to second win

Alberto Contador used the third and final Alpine stage of the Tour de France to take a further step toward a second victory in cycling's showcase event. **36**

Saipan Tribune Sports

Demapan goes undefeated en route to 8-ball win

Bradley Demapan went undefeated en route to winning the championship of the Top Pool Bar 8-Ball Billiards Tournament last Saturday. **39**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Bennett, Kenty off to World Champs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI will be sending two athletes to the 12th IAAF World Championships in Athletics in Berlin, Germany next month.



C N M I coach Elias R a n g a m a r said Northern Marianas

Athletics picked Yvonne Bennett and Clayton Kenty to represent the Commonwealth to the 2009 edition of the biennial meet, which will run from Aug. 15 to 23.

Bennett will be competing in her favorite event, the 100m run, while Kenty is entered in the 400m hurdles and 400m race.

It will be Bennett's second World Championships stint, as she and Tyrone Omar had been to the 2007 staging of the meet in Osaka, Japan.

"I am honored to be chosen, again to represent our beloved Commonwealth to the World Championships. I hope to better my performance in Osaka when I race in the 100m sprint next month," Bennett said in a telephone interview with Saipan Tribune yesterday.

Bennett was on Heat 2 of the 100m race in Osaka and timed in at 13.16 seconds, which was then a new CNMI National Record. She finished seventh in the heat won by eventual gold medalist Veronica Campbell of Jamaica. Campbell clocked in at 11.01 seconds

See BENNETT on Page 38



Kenty



Bennett

Depleted Boholanos-Raffy's Diner surprises MAFEA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Boholanos-Raffy's Diner played a five-man game, literally, and surprisingly whipped MAFEA-Bank of Saipan, 108-90, in the masters division of the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League last Wednesday at the JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan.

Boholanos had only Ferdie De La Torre, James Abuy, Danny Bicara, Nazario Rodriguez, and Elmer Pineda available for the game, and the five stuck together lifting the Raffy's Diner's-backed team to a 3-1 record.

Victories in their last two games [against NMBA and MIFICPA] tonight will give Boholanos a 5-1 mark in the six-team field and the pennant.

MAFEA had 10 players suiting up for the game, but failed to use its manpower advantage, dropping the team

See DEPLETED on Page 38

Boholanos-Raffy's Diner's James Abuy pulls up for a jumper against MAFEA-Bank of Saipan's Edsel Delfin during their game in the masters division of the UFO caging last Wednesday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Villafria braves cold on Mt. Fuji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Three days before the 2008 Mt. Fuji Marathon kicks off, Saipan-based runner Ronald Villafria was forced to trek the

hilly course and fought the cold to prepare for the Saturday race.

"Finally, I was able to go to top of the mountain yesterday [Wednesday]," said Villafria in an email to

Saipan Tribune.

Villafria, who left Saipan for Japan last week, had two futile attempts to get to the top of the 12,388-foot mountain, and he had to make a third try to have a clue on what the race will be like tomorrow.

"I attempted to go up two times and failed because of the bad weather. The race is getting close, so yesterday (Wednesday) I had no choice, but to go up despite the bad condition or else I don't know what will happen to me on

the race day," Villafria said.

This year's Mt. Fuji race also known as Fuji Tozan Race will be very much different from Villafria's debut in the challenging course last year.

The weather was hot last year, caus-

See VILLAFRIA on Page 38

Ronald Villafria poses in one of the stops in the 2009 Mt. Fuji Marathon during a practice trek to the top of the 12,388-foot mountain last Wednesday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Hello doldrums

Meteorologically, we are in the doldrums.

So is the economy.

And local sports too is calm as a clam these days.

Climatologically, Saipan has two seasons: rainy and dry.

Weatherologically we are in the rainy season but sportslogically we are in the dry season. Put the dictionary down, please.

And then are the poor football fans. For diehard football fans there are two seasons: football and pre-football. It's almost time for them to wake up from their hibernation.

Summer vacation, indeed. The only leagues going on now are the men's soccer league (pleasant Sunday afternoon affairs in Oleai), the Palau Master's league (delightful Dan Dan setting for 60-year-old men to play softball Sunday afternoons) and the

UFO basketball league (outdoor Garapan court whenever it doesn't rain and yes, it's rainy season).

Which leaves lots of time to watch sports on television.

Which raises the question: when does football start? Wise Guy answer: not soon enough.

Honest answer in local times depending on your definition of real football: a) Aug. 10, Monday 10am NFL Hall of Fame exhibition game, b) Sept. 4 Friday morning college football, c) Sept. 11 Friday morning the NFL regular season (some would say real football) with the Steelers hosting the Titans.

Football is the greatest televised sport invented by humankind.

Football is about the unfolding present to the future. Baseball is about the past. Joe DiMaggio's numbers are revered. Fran Tarkenton's stats don't really matter. Only the football game you're watching on television on that particular day that counts.

Sure, Brad Johnson quarterbacked my beloved Bucs to a Super Bowl championship but I can't even remember his uniform number.

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2



But ask me about Sandy Koufax or Mickey Mantle and I probably know the answer.

There are no rainouts in football. Baseball stops playing when it starts to rain. Baseball is played in a park on a field. Football is played on a gridiron in a stadium. Football players tackle. Baseball

See HELLO on Page 38